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THE
NORTH CAROLINA CLUB

YEAR BOOK, 1915-16

UNIVERSITY
OF NORTH CAROLINA

NORTH CAROLINA: RESOURCES, ADVANTAGES
AND OPPORTUNITIES

North Carolina

DR. CLARENCE POE

I BELIEVE in North Carolina, in her coming awakening, in the glory of her destiny; I believe that whatever of good or beauty or nobleness men in any other land or era have wrought, we men and women of North Carolina today and tomorrow, in the providence of God, may here and now achieve.

I am persuaded that with a stock so sturdy and capable, and with natural and social conditions so auspicious, such an ultimate flowering of the genius of our people is inevitable; that not only shall we develop a civilization whose average level will be high, but that even as one generation in Virginia produced a Washington, a Jefferson, a Marshall, a Madison, a Henry, and a Monroe, so there will arise from some generation of our own people a group of North Carolinians who will greatly and yet more variously enrich the annals of our race.

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FOREWORD: THE NORTH CAROLINA CLUB

Organization and Methods. The North Carolina Club was organized at the University of North Carolina on September 25, 1914, and is now entering upon its third year's work. It meets for an hour upon fortnightly Monday evenings. The schedule of studies for the year is marked up at its first meeting each fall, and the subjects are promptly chosen by volunteers among the members. The studies of the year, a score or so, are assigned to definite dates for reports and discussions. The students have access to the ample files of information in the headquarters of the Club in Room 14 of the Peabody Building. Here they spend their chance leisure in preparation upon their subjects—for weeks and sometimes for months in advance of their schedule dates.

A glance at the contents of this bulletin will show that the Club is busy with matters of state-wide importance and significance. They are homespun studies of every day puzzles and problems that call for competent understanding and wise solution every minute of every day in every community in North Carolina. They are studies of the near-here-and-now. So too are the Club subjects for 1916-17; nineteen studies in The Production of Primary Wealth in North Carolina, The Retention and Accumulation of Wealth in North Carolina, and Taxation and the Common Weal in North Carolina. The program in detail was published in the University News Letter, Vol. II, No. 44.

What It Is. The North Carolina Club is an oragnization composed of students and faculty members who are bent upon accurate, intimate acquaintance with the Mother-State; with her resources, advantages, opportunities and achievements, with the production and retention of wealth and the conversion of wealth into welfare and well-being, with markets and credits, organization and co-operative enterprise, with schools and colleges, churches and Sunday schools, with public health and sanitation, with the problems of urban and rural life—with the whole round of conditions, causes and consequences, forces, agencies and influences, tendencies, drifts and movements that have made the history we study today and that are making the history our children will be studying tomorrow.

It is a Know-Your-Home-State Club, devoted to the study of economic and social problems in North Carolina. It believes that a proper study for North Carolinians is North Carolina. It has a worthy, patriotic pride in the North Carolina that was day-before-yesterday, but also it cherishes a patriotic concern about the North Carolina that is today, and that will be day-after-tomorrow. It purposes

to develop the round-about and the forward look as well as the rearward look at the Home State. The wonderful story of bygone days in North Carolina has always had a deservedly large place in University culture. The North Carolina Club is endeavoring to probe to the quick and core of the present moment, and to sound the bottom of the aftertime—to use the words of Henry the Fourth.

The Home-County Clubs. Affiliated with the North Carolina Club, directly or indirectly, are the various County Clubs of students. The County Clubs or certain members of them, are exploring the economic and social problems of their home counties. So far 59 county booklets have been prepared for publication in the home papers. In some instances the county officials are preparing to issue these county studies in pamphlet form for text-book use by students in the high schools, by the teachers in the county institutes, and for thoughtful reading by the farmers, ministers, bankers, and other business people in general.

The fifteen chapters concern: (1) The Historical Background, (2) Timber Resources, (3) Mineral Resources, (4) Water-Power Resources, (5) Industries and Opportunities, (6) Facts About the Folks, (7) Facts About Wealth and Taxation, (8) Facts About the Schools, (9) Facts About Farm Conditions, (10) Facts About Farm Practices, (11) Facts About Food and Feed Production, (12) The Local Market Problem, (13) Where the County Leads, (14) Where the County Lags, and (15) the Way Out.

All told, 173 economic and social studies of state-wide range have so far been completed in the club headquarters. The students at work upon the home-county booklet can quickly assemble from the club files 173 exact facts about their county, and show its rank among the 100 counties of the State in 173 important particulars. They quickly see whether or not their county is moving forward, marking time, or lagging in the rear in essential matters of life and business. These studies are a tonic, quickening experience. They are a preparation for competent citizenship and effective public service.

Publications. The results of the State and County Club studies appear in brief in the University News Letter, which goes free once a week the year around to nine thousand readers in North Carolina, and in a score or more of other states.

The Home-County Club-Study Bulletin, University Extension Series No. 9, gives full details of instructions for the County Clubs.

Two special studies have been given to the public in University Extension Circular No. 1—Our Country Church Problem; and in Circular No. 2—Our Carolina Highlanders. Another Circular upon Wealth, Welfare, and Willingness in North Carolina is ready for the printer.

Country-Life Institutes were treated in the University Extension

Bureau Bulletin No. 16. The chapters concern (1) the Purposes of Country Life Institutes; (2) The Mission of the Country Church; and Institute topics and reading references upon (3) Country Churches and Sunday Schools; (4) Rural Work and Wealth; (5) Rural Schools; (6) Rural Health and Sanitation; (7) Rural Recreation; and (8) Rural Organization.

Field Work. The activities of the Club have stimulated local interest throughout the state; notably in Cherryville township, Gaston county, and in Swain, Watauga, and Alleghany, where small groups of devoted teachers and ministers have been busy of late arousing their constituencies to the necessity for community self-knowledge and constructive co-operative effort for progress and prosperity.

(2) The attention of Chambers of Commerce has been arrested by the 29 county studies showing the self-defensive interest of city centers in Local Markets for Home-raised Food and Feed Supplies, notably in Charlotte, Raleigh and Wilmington, where vigorous campaigns are now under way in behalf of farm prosperity in the surrounding trade territories.

(3) Field surveys of Orange, the home county of the University, have actively involved the Carolina Club members, the Chapel Hill Community Club, the County School Board and the State and Federal authorities—same four hundred people all told. These surveys have concerned (1) Country Schools, (2) Churches and Sunday Schools, (3) Public Health and Sanitation, (4) Farm Homes, (5) Farm Practices, and (6) Soils and Soil Resources. The results of this investigative, educative, and constructive campaign will be given to the public in the early spring in a University Extension Bulletin under the title Orange County: Economic and Social.

(4) Co-operative effort by country people under ministerial leadership in behalf of country well-being was stimulated by the Country-Life Institute at the Summer School of the University in 1916, and by the Country-Life Bulletin which gives in the large and in detail this fructifying idea of Rev. T. S. Cole, of Davie county. Our hope is that such Country Life Institutes will be held all over North Carolina.

University Extension Activities. These activities of the State and County Clubs are a detail of the large purpose of the University to serve the State within and beyond college walls. The paragraphs that follow indicate in the briefest possible way other phases of this state-wide service.

(1) During the last summer for 15 weeks two Traveling Medical Schools for practicing physicians were conducted under the direction of the University authorities and the State Board of Health. They were taught by Drs. Lewis Webb Hill, of Harvard, and Jesse R. Gerstley, of Northwestern University. One hundred and eighty-five

physicians in 12 counties received instruction and clinical experience in children's diseases. They got for $30.00 apiece what would have cost them $400 or more in the medicals schools of the North and West.

(2) For ten years or so student groups have kept alive seven country Sunday schools within a radius of six miles of the University. Last fall they taught six Moonlight Schools with 300 pupils enrolled. They conduct a Sunday School, a night school, a debating society, and a Y. M. C. A. for the negroes of the community. These field activities have been under the direct guidance of the University Y. M. C. A. Secretary.

(3) The University Summer School of 1916 enrolled 1052 teachers from 93 counties. Two hundred and fifty-seven of these students, representing 34 institutions, were doing college degree work.

(4) The University Debating Union in 1915 involved 1300 young debaters in 325 high schools, and they reached a total of 80,000 people in North Carolina audiences.

(5) The University Correspondence School in 1915-16 offered 37 courses and served 141 busy students who could not get to the University.

(6) Faculty members in answer to special invitations made addresses to nearly 200 audiences throughout the State.

(7) In addition, books and pamphlets from the Extension Bureau office, and letters giving detailed information and instructions about a great variety of matters went to countless correspondents in every nook and corner of the State. Practically every member of the University faculty is involved in this free correspondence service.

The Civic and Social Mind. In conclusion I may say that the studies of the State and County clubs are full of surprises. They are adventures in a new field of University learning. They are microscopic studies of the economic and social problems of small familiar areas. They are a necessary preparation for the telescopic study of academic theories, and a necessary accompaniment of work in general economics and sociology.

They are informing and stimulating in the highest degree. They appeal to patriotic pride and challenge the patriotic will. They afford real education, vital culture and effective training for competent citizenship. They arouse in students an active interest in their home communities. They develop a method of direct approach to the details of community life and business. They train the power of sane interpretation and constructive action in public enterprise. They prepare for leadership. They develop the civic and social mind. They relate individual culture to social efficiency—which is the largest purpose of modern education from kindergarten to university.

E. C. BRANSON,
President of the North Carolina Club, 1914-15, 1915-16.

Officers and Membership, 1915-16

President, E. C. Branson, Wake county; Secretary, S. H. DeVault, Tennessee; Treasurer, Marion Fowler, Orange county.

Steering Committee: E. R. Rankin, Gaston county; J. A. Capps, Gaston county; T. C. Boushall, Wake county; H. B. Hester, Granville county; E. L. Mackie, Guilford county; and R. E. Price, Rutherford county.

Publicity Committee: R. H. Thornton, Virginia; R. C. Vaughn, Forsyth county; J. F. Hackler, Alleghany county; W. H. Stephenson, Wake county; and S. J. Ervin, Burke county.

3. The membership in 1915-16 was: Alamance county, D. V. Carter; Alexander, L. P. Gwaltney, Harry Miller; Alleghany, J. F. Hackler, A. O. Joines; Buncombe, V. W. McGhee, N. C. Shuford; Burke, H. G. Goode; Caldwell, J. A. Kent; Chatham, W. L. Goldston, Jr.; Cleveland, L. Blanton; Craven, Carlyle Morris; Cumberland, J. M. Huske; Davidson, R. S. Yarborough; Duplin, V. F. Williams; Durham, O. LeR. Goforth; Forsyth, R. C. Vaughn, W. C. Wright; Gaston, F. M. Arrowood, J. A. Capps, E. R. Warren, E. R. Rankin; Guilford, A. M. Lindau; Halifax, R. B. House; Henderson, W. C. Rymer, H. M. Smith; Iredell, J. H. Allred, H. G. Baity, F. H. Deaton, D. E. Eagle; Madison, J. B. Huff; Mecklenburg, J. M. Holbrook, M. H. Randolph; Nash, A. T. Thorpe; Northampton, J. H. Lassiter; Orange, E. K. Graham, J. G. DeR. Hamilton, M. B. Fowler, E. G. Hogan, J. C. Ray, Eugene Sugg, E. C. Branson, F. F. Bradshaw; Pamlico, R. B. Spencer; Rockingham, L. H. Hodges; Rowan, G. H. Cooper; Rutherford, R. E. Price; Sampson, S. H. Hobbs, Jr., W. E. Matthews; Union, S. I. Parker; Wake, J. K. Holloway, J. S. Stell, T. C. Boushall, G. W. Lay; Warren, M. C. Davis; Watauga, C. C. Miller; Wayne, Russell L. Ginn, M. E. Robinson; Wilkes, D. N. Edwards; Wilson, Troy Barnes; Tennessee, S. H. DeVault.

Our Mineral Resources

J. H. ALLRED, *Surry County*

The North Carolina Club at the University held its first meeting for the new year on September 27, with a brief paper on Our Mineral Resources, by Mr. J. H. Allred, of Surry county. A summary of the paper and the discussion is as follows:

The wealth produced by mines and quarries in North Carolina in 1912 was $3,514,892. It is not a large total, said he, when compared with the wealth produced by agriculture, which was $242,000,000 in 1915; or by our textile mills in 1914, which was $100,303,000; or by tobacco manufacture the same year, which was $57,861,000; but it was a thirty-seven per cent increase since the census year.

Our mineral deposits are remarkable in range and variety. For this reason North Carolina is a great open text-book for field students of minerals and rocks. Her sample case of specimens could not be duplicated by any other state in the Union. However, many of our deposits are of great economic value because of their rarity, purity or extensiveness. This is particularly true of our mica, clays, granites, and other building stones. About two-thirds of all the mica used in the United States is produced in North Carolina.

The gold produced in the state last year amounted to the small total of $170,000, or not much more than half the value of the honey and wax produced in North Carolina each year. Mr. Allred quoted Professor Collier Cobb as saying, that he would rather have a good clay bank in Wayne county than all the gold mines of the state. Nevertheless, North Carolina produces about two-thirds of the entire gold output of the Eastern States.

On the whole, the mineral resources of the state have been poorly developed so far. Here is a source of varied wealth far greater than our development enterprises.

Mineral Output

Arranged in the order of importance, our mineral products in 1912, the date of the last authoritative report, were as follows:

1.	Kaolin and other clays	$1,605,474
2.	Stone—granite, sandstone, marble, limestone, etc.	1,090,831
3.	Mica, sheet and scrap	256,549
4.	Iron	186,264
5.	Gold	166,014
6.	Talc and pyrophyllite	63,304
7.	Sand and gravel	38,487
8.	Lead	25,694

9.	Abrasives	10,625
10.	Copper	10,521
11.	Precious stones	5,655
12.	Silver	2,985
	Miscellaneous—barytes, feldspar, graphite, etc..	30,104

Leading Counties

Ten Counties lead in mineral production in 1912. They produced more than three-fifths of the state total.

1.	Surry	$422,227
2.	Rowan	382,571
3.	Guilford	273,150
4.	Mitchell	238,192
5.	Avery	186,264
6.	Wayne	165,794
7.	Montgomery	162,501
8.	Mecklenburg	105,817
9.	Henderson	98,417
10.	Macon	91,300

Investment Opportunities

Opportunities inviting the investment of capital in our mineral resources and promising safe returns, says Dr. Joseph Hyde Pratt, our State Geologist, are:

Stone quarries producing crushed rock for concrete.

Granite quarries for building stone.

The development of our magnetic iron ores, talc and soapstone deposits.

Pottery plants to utilize our kaolin and feldspar.

A central plant for washing kaolin, and crushing and grinding feldspar.

Up-to-date brick plants.

The development of our silicious gold ores.

Sources of Information

Monthly Crop Reports, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

The Census of Industries, 1914.

Mining Industry in N. C., 1911-1912.—Bulletin N. C. Geological and Economic Survey.

Chemical Potentialities of the South.—Manufacturers Record, Sept. 14, 1916.

Sept. 27, 1915.

Our Timber Resources

J. H. LASSITER, *Northampton County*

At the meeting of the North Carolina Club on Sept. 27, Mr. J. H. Lassiter, of Northampton county, briefly detailed our forest resources and timber products as follows:

The total wooded area of the state is nearly twenty million acres, containing between 40 and 50 billion board feet of merchantable timber. In which particular North Carolina ranks among the first four states of the Union.

Wood-Lot Area and Products

Our woodland in farms is 12,452,000 acres, and the forest products of farms in North Carolina in 1910 amounted to $11,364,000; in which particular we outranked every other state in the Union. These products were firewood, fencing material, railway ties, telegraph and telephone poles, material for barrels, bark, naval stores, and similar products. The wood-lot products used on the farms amounted to $5,414,000; the products sold off the farms yielded $4,404,000, and $1,545,000 was received from the sale of standing timber.

Our annual firewood cut in North Carolina is some 5,720,000 cords, which is equal to three billion board feet of lumber. Spending money for fuel on the farms of the state is almost unknown anywhere.

Forest Area and Timber Products

The forest area of the state is nearly seven and a half million acres, and much or most of it still untouched. Aside from numberless small custom saw mills, the concerns turning out lumber for commerce numbered 1,531 in 1913, the date of the last report. Only two states had more saw mills.

The lumber sawed by these mills was nearly two billion board feet, to be exact, 1,957,000,000. In this particular North Carolina was outranked only by Texas, Oregon, Mississippi, Louisiana and Washington, in the order named.

The commercial output of lumber and the rank of the state in 1913 was as follows according to Bulletin No. 232 of the Federal Department of Agriculture, dated June, 1915:

	BOARD FEET
4th, yellow pine	1,515,000,000
8th, oak	173,000,000
10th, hemlock	37,681,000
8th, cypress	19,213,000
6th, red gum	38,879,000

5th, yellow poplar	51,724,000
6th, chestnut	44,129,000
11th, white pine	40,710,000
8th, cedar	5,167,000
10th, basswood	6,180,000
2nd, tupelo	10,726,000

In the commercial output of softwood lumber in 1913, North Carolina ranked among the first six states of the Union; and among the first eleven states in the production of hardwood lumber. The hardwood output was 339,000,000 board feet, mainly oak, yellow poplar, chestnut, red gum, basswood, and maple. In 1915, we ranked 4th in the production of yellow pine.

Lumber Production in 1915

In May, 1916, Mr. J. C. Nellis, of the U. S. Forest Service, presented to the National Manfacturers Association in Chicago a paper from which the following items have been abstracted:

In 1915, the computed total production of lumber in North Carolina was 2,090,000,000 board feet. The total was larger in only three states —Mississippi, Louisiana, and Washington, in the order named. We had 80 saw mills cutting more than 5 million each. Here again the total was larger only in the three states named. Our output of laths was 103,077,000 and our rank 8th; our production of shingles was 52,357,000 and our rank 11th.

Our Wood-Working Establishments

In 1914 the Census of Industries shows 2,952 saw mills, planing mills and packing box factories, turning out products valued at $39,632,000.

Our wood-working industries were as follows: 109 furniture and refrigerator factories, with products worth $9,335,000; car and repair shops 16, with products valued at $5,048,000; factories making carriages, wagons, and vehicle supplies 137, with products worth $3,333,000; concerns making coffns and undertakers' supplies 14, with products valued at $691,000.

All told, our lumber, timber, and wood-working industries numbered 3,218. They employed an average of 44,755 wage earners, consumed material valued at $26,115,000, and turned out products worth $57,207,000.

In other words, about two-thirds of the lumber and timber products of the state are used in our own wood-working industries.

Our grand total of (1) lumber and timber products, (2) wood-lot products, and (3) wood-working products in 1914 was nearly $60,000,-

000. Our cotton and tobacco crops in the census year were together valued at $64,000,000.

Manifestly, our abundant lumber, timber, and fire-wood products make it easy to keep warm in North Carolina, and easy to get under shelter out of the weather. They explain the rapid development of our car shops, carriage, wagon, and furniture factories.

They ought to tempt capital to invest in wood-pulp and paper enterprises; but so far there are only three plants of this kind in the state,—one at Canton, Haywood county, and two at Roanoke Falls, in Halifax. There ought to be a score or more, the demand for paper and the high prices considered.

Sources of Information

Some Facts and Figures about North Carolina and Her Resources. —Handbook of N. C. Geological and Economic Survey, 1913.

The 1910 Census of Agriculture.

The Production of Lumber in 1913.—Professional Paper, U. S. Forest Service, June, 1915.

Lumber Production in 1915.—Paper by J. C. Nellis, U. S. Forest Service.

Census of Industries, 1914.

Report of N. C. Labor Commission, 1915.

Sept. 27, 1915.

Water Power in North Carolina

D. E. Eagle, *Iredell County*

1. Potential Water Power

In the mountain regions of the state, on the long slope eastward to the falls line in North Carolina, and southeastward along the streams flowing into South Carolina, our potential minimum water power is 578,000 horsepowers on a basis of 75 per cent efficiency; and our rank in this particular is first in the South, as recorded by the Federal Corporation Commission in 1912.

Herein lies the explanation of North Carolina's early start toward industrial development, and her present pre-eminence in manufacture in the South, said Mr. Eagle.

And this estimate does not count the small sites of less than 1,000 horsepowers which are available for domestic and municipal uses—running farm machinery, lighting farm homes, lighting small towns and cities, and furnishing power for the hundred uses of small businesses therein.

2. Developed Water Power

In 1912, the installed capacity of our water powers was 110,203 horsepower. This total was in use by commercial and municipal central stations, street and electric railways, and manufacturing plants. It was less than a fifth of our potential water power.

It is a small total; nevertheless in developed water power North Carolina ranked 16th in the United States and 3rd in the South. Virginia at that time had 123,079 water horsepowers in use and South Carolina 221,492.

3. Uses of Water Power

Nearly half or 50,052 of our developed water horsepowers were used for manufacture; 49,951 were used by commercial and municipal central stations; and only 10,200 by street and electric railways.

Very little of the water power of the State is owned, developed and used by municipalities for light and power purposes—only 951 horsepowers in 1912.

There were 47 municipal light and power plants in North Carolina in 1915, but water was owned and used as the source of power by only 4 municipalities—Andrews, Elkin, Mt. Airy, and North Wilkesboro.

Twenty-eight towns depended on steam coal, while 15 purchased light and power from local mills or the big power companies. Nine municipalities were supplied by the Southern Power Company and two by the Carolina Light and Power Company.

In the South, North Carolina ranked next to Virginia in the use of water power by municipal central stations, but 15 states of the Union make a better showing in municipal water power plants.

4. Water Powers Used in Manufacture

The water power developed and in use for manufacturing purposes in North Carolina, as reported in the 1910 census, was 41,926 horsepowers; in which particular we ranked 2nd in the South.

In addition we had 22,000 horsepowers in use by 191 small custom saw mills and 861 custom grist mills; making all told 64,000 horsepowers developed by water and in use for manufacturing purposes in the state. That is to say, we were using for manufacture about one-ninth of the potential water power in North Carolina.

In 1902, we were using 28,726 water horsepowers in manufacture but in 1910 we were using 41,926 and in 1912 the total was 50,052. Here is an 80 per cent increase in ten years.

But the water horsepower used in 1912 in street and electric railways was nearly a four-fold increase, while the commercial central stations represented nearly a fifty-fold increase in water power during the same period.

5. Water Power Control

In 1912 eighteen corporations owned and controlled 158,435 horsepowers or 27 per cent of our total potential horsepower. Forty-five per cent of the commercial water power in North Carolina, developed and under construction in 1912, was controlled by a single concern, says Van Hise, in his volume on Concentration and Control; and two-thirds of it, by two light and power companies, said Herbert Knox Smith, our Federal Corporation Commissioner at that time.

In 1915, two companies controlled 75.1 per cent of the developed water power of the state and 66.5 per cent of the total power; eight corporations controlled 94 per cent of the water power, and fourteen controlled 89.1 per cent of the total power; forty-nine municipalities had 1 per cent of the water power and 5.5 per cent of the total power, says the Federal Secretary of Agriculture, in his report to the Senate in February, 1915.

6. Our Small Water Powers

When our wasteful methods of lumbering, our steady destruction of present and prospective timber by forest fires, and our enormous yearly cut of fire wood have brought us to our knees in North Carolina, we shall begin to realize the immense value of our unconsidered small water powers.

In another generation or two we will turn to these small privately

owned water powers, not only for light and warmth, power and traction, but for protection against the possible over-charges for electricity furnished by the big commercial concerns.

Our small mountain streams are especially valuable. The Appalachian Training School at Boone has developed 30 horsepowers in a small plant costing only $7,500. This little plant furnishes light, heat and power for the school and also for the town.

A little stream running alongside the R. E. Lee Hall at Blue Ridge gives a drop of 200 feet on a wheel, and furnishes lights for 600 guests in the hotel and surrounding cottages. The cost of installation was around $10,000 and the operating expenses are barely more than nominal.

7. Sources of Information

Concentration and Control.—Van Hise.

Water Power Development in the United States.—Report of the Commissioner of Corporations, 1912.

The 1910 Census on Manufactures.

Electric Power Development in the United States.—Report to the Senate, Feb. 13, 1915, by the Secretary of Agriculture.

October 11, 1915.

Our Diversity of Farm Products

R. E. PRICE, *Rutherford County*

The remarkable diversity of soils and seasons in North Carolina naturally leads to diversity in crops, livestock farming and agricultural industries, said Mr. R. E. Price, of Rutherford county, to the North Carolina Club at the first meeting in October.

In the tide-water country we have, said he, the truck crops of the Great Winter Garden. In the coastal plain counties, we have nature's choicest area for cotton, tobacco, corn, sweet potatoes, peanuts, pumpkins and pork production. The Piedmont country is a winter wheat area, offering every possible advantage in hay and forage production, livestock and dairy farming. The mountain country is a region of cattle, cabbages and kings, buckwheat, sugar maples and apple orchards.

We raise everything from the sub-tropical fig to the sub-arctic cereals and grasses.

North Carolina and Wisconsin Compared

The speaker exhibited an interesting chart of the farm products of the state in the census year, arranged in the form of a pyramid; fifty million dollars worth of cotton forming the base, and seventy-five hundred dollars worth of grasses and garden seeds, the apex.

Comparing it with Wisconsin's products, he said, we raise everything that Wisconsin raises except flaxseed, emmer and spelt; and we raise corn, wheat, peanuts, tobacco, orchard fruits and nuts in greater abundance. Our farm woodlot products are worth nearly $2,000,000 more. Our poultry stock is smaller, but we produce 5,000,000 fowls more per year. Cotton Wisconsin cannot, of course, grow at all.

In Wisconsin the farmer struggles with Nature to produce crops and animal products; in North Carolina Nature struggles with the farmer for a full expression of her gifts and favors.

He called attention to the fact that Wisconsin's agriculture is based on hay and forage, her greatest crop; ours, on cotton and tobacco—or so in the census year.

We are crop farmers mainly; they are livestock farmers mainly. While we produce $33,000,000 worth of livestock products, they produce nearly $120,000,000 worth, not counting another $100,000,000 in butter, cheese and condensed milk turned out by their 3,000 small factories. They are food farmers and live at home with surpluses to sell; we raise cotton and tobacco to sell, with deficits of food and feed to buy—or so for a long term of years.

As a result our per capita country wealth is less than a third the

average in the United States; Wisconsin's is a fourth above. Our average is $322 and theirs $1,123.

Our New Farm Basis

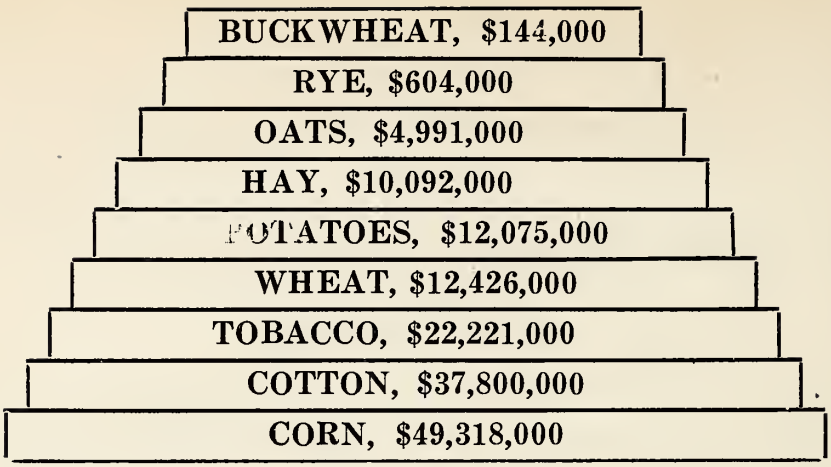
However, said Mr. Price, we are rapidly remedying this economic error. Our crop values have increased $151,000,000 in 15 years, an average gain of some $10,000,000 a year. And the gain is in bread and meat, hay and forage crops. We have less cotton this year, but more corn, wheat, oats, hay and forage, pigs and cattle.

The base of our 1915 pyramid is corn, $55,000,000 worth. Cotton retires to the second place for the first time in forty years.

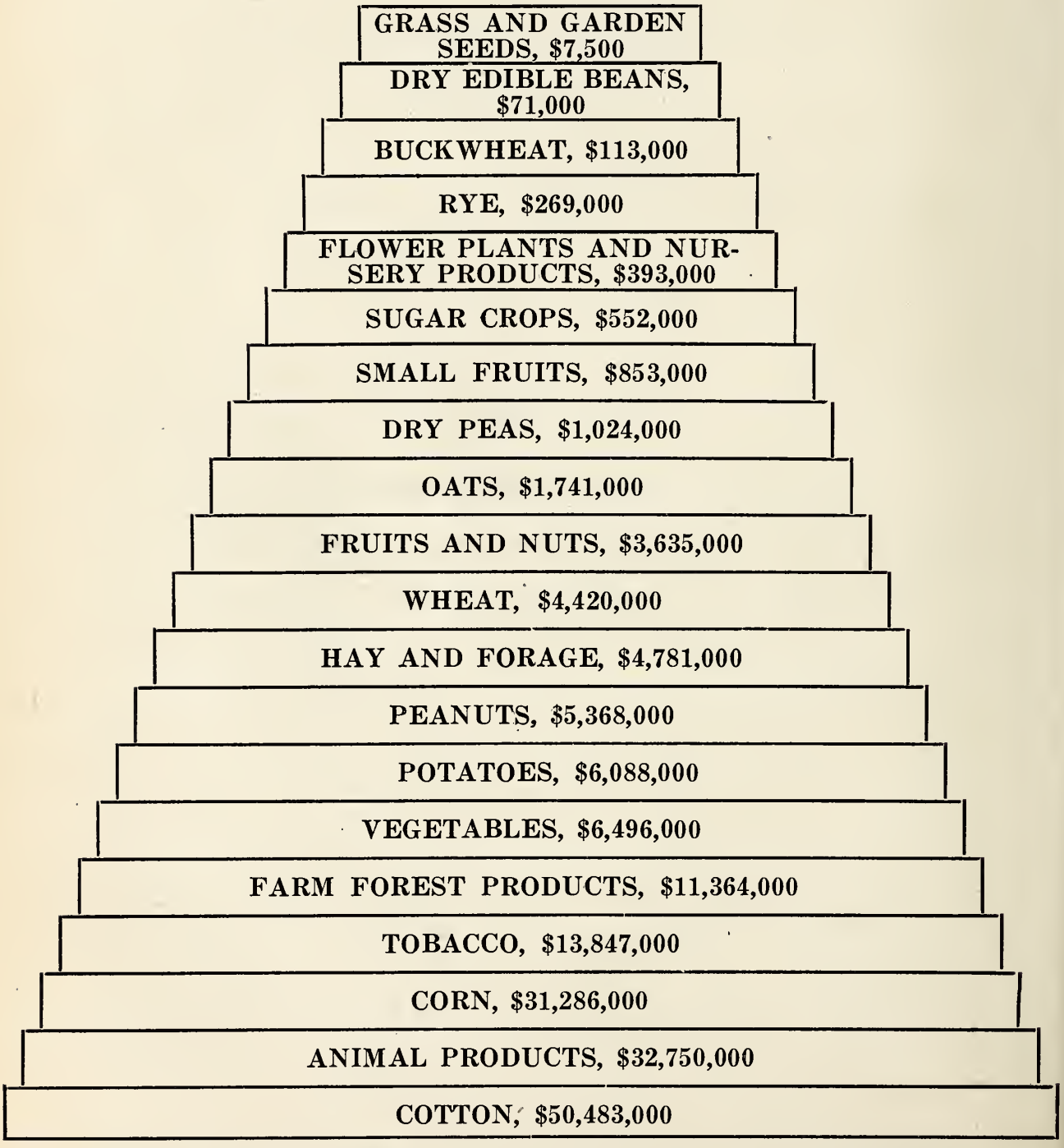
Sources of Information

The 1910 Census on Agriculture.
Report of the N. C. Commissioner of Agriculture, 1915.
Geography and Industries of Wisconsin.—Whitbeck.

Oct. 11, 1915.



North Carolina in 1915—Crops Alone $202,079,000
Based on Federal Crop Report, Dec. 30, 1915



North Carolina in 1909—Crops and Livestock Products $175,000,000

Carolina Industries in 1910

M. H. Smith, *Henderson County*

We here give a brief summary of Mr. Smith's Study of North Carolina Industries based on the Census of 1910 and the 1914 Report of the State Labor Commissioner, and his report rendered to the North Carolina Club at the last meeting in October, 1915.

In the census year, said he, we had nearly 5,000 industrial establishments in North Carolina turning out products worth $216,000,000; an increase of 155 per cent in values over 1900, and a 2100 per cent increase since 1850.

Our Leading Enterprises

Eighty-five per cent of these values were produced by 6 leading forms of manufacture. Named in the order of importance they were: 365 textile mills, 2,812 lumber, timber, and wood-working concerns, 43 tobacco factories, 53 cotton seed oil mills, 249 flour and grist mills, and 34 fertilizer plants.

Fertilizers excepted, almost every dollar's worth of the raw materials used was produced in North Carolina. Our mills now consume all the cotton we raise in an average year.

Leading Counties

Our furniture factories were 117; Guilford leading with 20, followed by Davidson with 12. Our carriage and wagon factories numbered 138 in the census year.

Gaston county led in cotton mills; 48 factories with 507,000 producing spindles; in which particular it is outranked only by Spartanburg county in South Carolina.

Gains in Finer Fabrics

Seventeen million dollars worth of ginghams, napped fabrics, fancy woven fabrics, drills, twills and sateens were manufactured in the census year. The ten year increases in these products range from 100 per cent in ginghams to 1,400 per cent in twills and sateens.

First in the United States

North Carolina leads the Union in the number of cotton mills and factories; in the amount of raw cotton consumed; and in the manufacture of chewing and smoking tobacco.

She ranks below Massachusetts alone in the value of manufactured cotton products. In the number of producing spindles, the state is outranked by Massachusetts and South Carolina.

North Carolina ranks second in lumber, timber and wood-working establishments.

First in the South

North Carolina is the best developed industrial state in the South, in the number of plants, in variety of manufactures, in the distribution of capital employed, and in the use of home-produced raw materials.

Our rank in the census year in the old South, 13 states including Oklahoma, was 1st in the number of establishments, 1st in the number of persons engaged, 1st in primary horsepower employed, 1st in total electric power used, 1st in number of females over sixteen and children under sixteen engaged, 1st in the value of our cotton mill products, 1st in furniture making and wood-working industries.

We were 2nd in total waterpower used, 2nd in total capital employed, 2nd in the value added by manufacture, 2nd in the number of producing spindles, and 5th in the total value of manufactured products.

Sources of Information

The 1910 Census of Industries.

The 1915 Report of the State Labor Commissioner.

Oct. 25, 1915.

Carolina Industries in 1914

University News Letter, Vol. II, No. 38

The Federal Census of Industries shows North Carolina ahead or nearly so in so many particulars in 1914 that a bird's-eye view of the thirteen Southern States is inspiring.

In manufacturing industries North Carolina is, all told, the best developed state in the whole South. If you are in doubt about it, look at the facts.

North Carolina leads the South (1) in the average number of wage earners, 136,844, (2) in the primary horsepower employed, 508,235, (3) in the total amount of wages paid, $46,038,000, (4) in value added by the processes of manufacture, $119,470,000, and, (5) in the per cent of increased value due to manufacture, 26 per cent.

The number of manufacturing establishments was 5,507. Only Virginia had more—and only one more!

Our capital invested was $253,842,000. Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas were each a little ahead of us in the amount of capital employed.

But the value of our mill and factory products was $289,412,000, and we were ahead of Virginia in this particular by $25,000,000, Louisiana by $33,000,000, Georgia by $36,000,000, Kentucky by $59,000,000, Tennessee by $77,000,000, Alabama by $113,000,000, and South Carolina by $150,000,000. We were behind Texas alone, big as she is, by only $71,000,000. We were too far ahead of the other Southern States to bother with comparisons.

Gains in Every Particular

The total value of our manufactured products increased $72,551,000 between 1909 and 1914. Here is an increase of 33.6 per cent; in which particular we outstripped every other Southern state except Oklahoma which is just beginning a vigorous industrial development. Her output is small but her per cent of gain is large.

The value added in the processes of manufacture in North Carolina was $119,470,000; in which particular we outstripped every other state in the South.

Our five year increase in the number of industrial establishments was 11.7 per cent. Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, and Mississippi suffered a decrease both in the number of establishments and of wage earners. Alabama decreased in the number of establishments, while South Carolina and Florida decreased in the number of wage earners during this five-year period.

Our Industrial Leadership

North Carolina leads the South in the number of textile mills, in the amount of raw cotton consumed, in variety of cotton mill products, and in the total value of cotton goods produced.

North Carolina leads the South in furniture manufacture and in other timber working industries. And she leads the whole United States in the manufacture of chewing and smoking tobacco.

The leading industries of North Carolina are based on her own home-produced materials—cotton, tobacco, and timber. She consumes in her own mills all the cotton she produces from year to year, and more. Her tobacco factories are seated in the center of great tobacco growing areas. Her furniture factories use more wood than any other state in the Union, but it comes mainly out of her own forests, at a cost less than the average in ten of the great furniture making states, and $7 per thousand feet less than the average for the country at large.

North Carolina leads the South in the average number of wage earners in her mills and factories. The number in 1914 was 136,844, the only other Southern State having more than a hundred thousand operatives were Georgia with 104,000 and Virginia with 102,000.

Prosperity in North Carolina does not consist in the annual production of crude wealth alone—crops, livestock, livestock products, minerals, timber, and the like. No state that is occupied in producing raw materials merely or mainly has the largest chance to accumulate wealth in large totals.

But North Carolina takes a hundred and sixty-nine million dollars worth of cotton, tobacco, and timber, her own products mainly, and increases their value by one hundred and nineteen million dollars in the processes of manufacture in her own mills and factories.

In this particular she outranks every other Southern State, Texas included, big as she is.

Wonderful Expansion

North Carolina shows gains in almost every particular. In the ten-year period from 1904 to 1914 our bakeries increased from 34 to 66; brick, tile, and pottery works from 107 to 139; carriage and wagon factories from 125 to 137; car and general construction shops from 11 to 16; cotton mills from 212 to 293; flour and grist mills from 234 to 293; hosiery and knitting mills from 40 to 74; cottonseed oil mills from 43 to 62; mattress and spring bed factories from 9 to 29; foundry and machine shops from 70 to 136; marble and stone works from 22 to 64; fertilizer factories from 27 to 41; and our lumber and timber establishments from 1,364 to 2,652. Miscellaneous factories increased from 288 to 441.

We have fewer agricultural implement works, and fewer tobacco factories, but around twice the output in both cases. Also fewer woolen and worsted mills but a larger production. Boot and shoe, turpentine and rosin manufacture seem to be about the only dwindling industries in the state.

Our cotton goods increased from $47,254,000 to $90,744,000; hosiery and other knit goods from $2,484,000 to $8,892,000; tobacco factory products from $28,088,000 to $57,861,000; lumber and timber mill products from $19,489,000 to $39,632,000; cottonseed oil mill products from $3,749,000 to $15,269,000; and our fertilizers from $3,099,000 to $10,308.000.

The figures of the foregoing items on North Carolina industries are based on the 1914 Federal Census, put at our disposal by the Census Director, Mr. Sam L. Rogers.

Our Soils and Seasons

M. H. RANDOLPH, *Mecklenburg County*

Wisconsin on 11,908,000 acres produces crops worth $148,000,000, but North Carolina on 8,813,000 acres produces crops worth $142,819,-000; which is to say, on an acreage one-third smaller, we produce crop values nearly as great.

So reads the 1910 census, said Mr. M. H. Randolph, of Mecklenburg county, to the North Carolina Club at its last meeting in October.

Our corn crop was worth $5,560,000 more than Wisconsin's crop. The corn growing records of our corn club boys and demonstration farmers cannot be equalled in Wisconsin with any kind of high-bred seed or any kind of cultivation.

Wisconsin's leading crop is hay, and her ten-year average is 1.49 tons per acre; but North Carolina's ten-year average is 1.38 tons per acre, even with the trifling attention we give to this crop.

When we really try out the hay possibilities of our soils and seasons, we raise from five to six tons per acre, as eight farmers have done this year in Forsyth, Rowan, and Wilkes.

Wisconsin in 1910 had 4 million fowls on her farms more than we had in North Carolina; but in North Carolina we raised from our poultry stock nearly 5 million fowls more than Wisconsin raised, and sold nearly a million more.

Why We Lead

The explanation lies in the variety and adaptability of our soils and seasons, said Mr. Randolph.

Our growing season is long, ranging from 149 days in western North Carolina to 267 in the east; in Wisconsin it ranges from 80 to 170 days. In certain portions of Wisconsin a killing frost is liable to fall any summer night.

Our summer temperatures are moderate. Sunstrokes are rare in North Carolina; they are common in the long hot summer days of the upper Mississippi valley.

Our winters are short and mild; in Wisconsin they are long and severe. We have no need for the steam-heated barns you find in the states along the Canadian border.

Our rainfall is around fifty inches a year, and it is well distributed throughout the growing season, ranging from 3 1-2 to 6 inches per month year in and year out. We know almost nothing of the frequent, prolonged droughts of the middle and lower Mississippi valley.

Everywhere in the State there is abundant water for live stock farming. Poultry and eggs are almost an unconsidered by-product

on Carolina farms; and yet in poultry and production we outrank Wisconsin and 33 other states of the Union.

What Would Wisconsin Do With Our Advantages

From the peaty black loams of Hyde in the coastal region to the clay loams of Watauga in the mountains, there is every possible variety of soil in North Carolina. We have 22,000,000 acres of idle farm and forest lands that can be had for far less money than lands of similar value anywhere else on the continent. And North Carolina holds out beckoning hands to home-seekers.

We have valuable trucking regions in the east, in what the Federal Soils Bureau calls The Great Winter Garden. In our mountain counties, we have a natural apple-growing region—far better than the Ozark mountains or the apple areas of Colorado, Washington, and Oregon.

The mountain and piedmont regions of our state were designed by nature for grass growing, cattle raising, dairy farming, cheese and butter making.

Here is a wheat area that produces $4,420,000 worth of winter wheat the same year that Wisconsin produces $2,500,000 worth of spring wheat; and here is where livestock industries are rapidly developing in North Carolina.

Rich Livestock Farmers

But in Wisconsin the country population is worth $1,295 apiece upon an average. In North Carolina they are worth only $322 apiece. In one-fourth the time in history they have accumulated nearly four times the amount of wealth.

The reason? They are livestock farmers mainly; while we are crop farmers mainly. That's why.

Sources of Information

The 1910 Census on Agriculture.

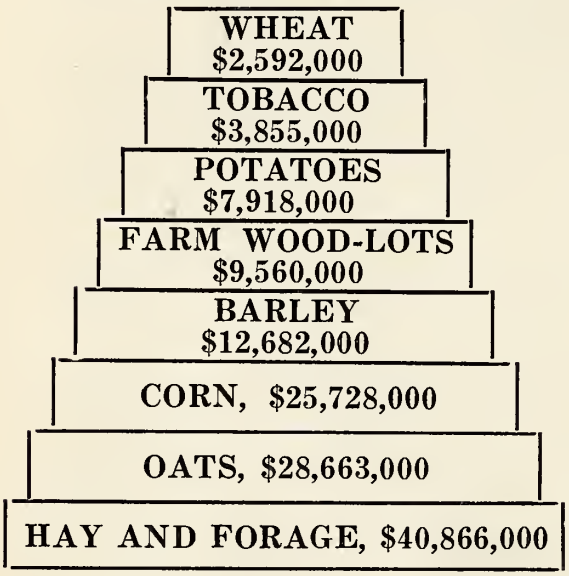
Geography and Industries of Wisconsin.—Whitbeck.

October 25, 1915.

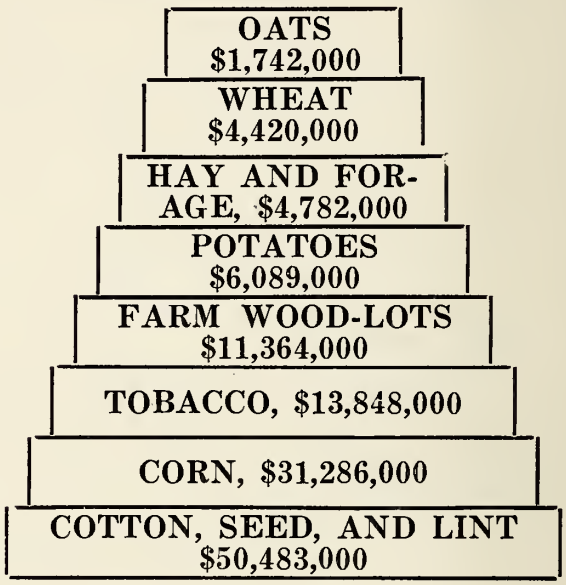
WISCONSIN 1910	
Total crops	$148,359,000
Cultivated acres	11,908,000
No. farm workers	298,000
Acres per worker	40
Produced per worker	$499
Per. capita farm wealth	$1,295

NORTH CAROLINA 1910	
Total crops	$142,890,000
Cultivated acres	8,813,000
No. farm workers	605,000
Acres per worker	14.5
Produced per worker	$236
Per capita farm wealth	$322

Bread and Meat Farming



Cotton and Tobacco Farming



WISCONSIN NORTH CAROLINA

BASED ON 1910 CENSUS.—M. H. RANDOLPH

Food and Feed Crops in 1915: Our Six-Year Increases

University News Letter Items

North Carolina 1915 Crops		6-Yr. Increases
Corn, bushels	64,050,000	88 per cent
Wheat, bushels	10,358,000	161 per cent
Oats, bushels	8,050,000	190 per cent
Rye, bushels	575,000	105 per cent
Buckwheat, bushels	175,000	21 per cent
Rice, bushels	4,000	667 per cent
Potatoes, bushels	3,150,000	32 per cent
Sweet potatoes, bushels	8,925,000	5 per cent
Hay, tons	648,000	75 per cent
Tobacco, pounds	198,400,000	42 per cent
Cotton, bales	708,000	5 per cent

A Forty Million Dollars Increase

A most remarkable stride toward economic freedom in the farm regions of North Carolina this year is shown in the Federal crop report given to the press on December 16. The significance of this report appears when the totals are compared with the crops of 1909 as found in the 13th Census.

We have raised this year not less but more cotton and tobacco than we raised six years ago; but at the same time we have nearly doubled our corn and hay crops, more than doubled our yield of rye, and nearly trebled our yield of wheat and oats during this interval. We have also raised more rice, buckwheat, and potatoes.

We have wheat and hay enough for home consumption, and we are approaching sufficiency in our corn and potato crops. Our gain in food and feed crops during this six year period has been $40,000,000, and we will this year hold down in North Carolina a large part of the $119,000,000 that went out of the state in 1910 to swell the bank accounts of the bread-and-meat farmers of the Middle West.

No farm civilization can achieve permanent prosperity that is not self-financing; and no farm community can be self-financing that is not self-feeding.

Nineteen fifteen was a remarkable year in North Carolina Agriculture.

A Nine Million Dollars Increase

The farmers of North Carolina on January 1, 1916, were nearly nine million dollars richer in horses, mules, milk cows and swine than

in 1910 when the census was taken. They had 16,000 more horses, 25,000 more mules, 11,000 more milk cows, and 372,000 more swine.

Our rates of increase during this five year period were 9.6 per cent in horses or nearly two and a half times the rate of the country at large; mules 14 per cent or nearly 3 times the general rate; and swine a 30 per cent increase against a 3.6 per cent increase in the United States.

Our increase in milk cows is not up to the mark; 3.5 per cent against 5.6 in the country at large. Also we had 4,000 fewer cattle of other sorts, and 45,000 fewer sheep.

But all told, here is a most wonderful increase in livestock in five years! It keeps pace with our increases in crop production as noted in the *University News Letter,* January 12th.

Barring only sheep, milk cows, and other cattle the increases show well against the increases during the census period. We are improving the breed of our dairy and beef animals, but the Federal Livestock Report of January 18 indicates that we are failing to gain in numbers as fast as we ought to do.

Crop Producing Power of Carolina Farms

J. B. Huff, *Madison County*

1. Total Farm Wealth Produced

The wealth-producing power of Carolina soils is enormous, said Mr. Huff to the North Carolina Club at its first meeting in November.

Total crop values alone considered, our rank in the 1910 Census was 19th; which is to say, we stood ahead of 31 states in this particular.

But in 1915 our total crop values were $202,079,000, our rank was 15th, and we stood ahead of 33 states of the Union.

Here is a gain of nearly sixty million dollars in six years in crop wealth alone.

Gains at the rate of ten million dollars a year indicate what Carolina soils are equal to under better methods of cropping and cultivation.

If now we add to the crop total in 1915 the livestock wealth produced, around forty million dollars, we have a grand total of $242,000,000 created by our farms alone.

It is more than twice the wealth created by manufacture, which was $119,470,000 in 1914. It is ten times the total bank capital of the state.

It is nearly a third of the total taxable properties of North Carolina. Which means that in three years the farms of the state create wealth nearly as great as the property we have been able to accumulate on our tax digest in 250 years.

2. Per-Acre Production of Crop Wealth

North Carolina has a creditable rank not only in the total volume of crop wealth created year by year, but also in per-acre producing power. In 1914, the average, covering the 12 leading crops of the country, was $20.18. It was $3.88 beyond the average for the United States. It was beyond the average of every other Southern State except Kentucky, and Kentucky was ahead by only 4 cents an acre. It was beyond the average of every one of the rich prairie states of the Middle West, which ranged from $13.19 per acre in Minnesota to $19.87 in Ohio. See Table II, p. 36.

For long years we have raised more lint cotton per acre than any other Cotton Belt State. In 1915 the average per acre was 270 pounds.

Our per-acre crop values run higher than those of the prairie states, not because our soils are more fertile, but because our crop wealth is produced mainly by cotton and tobacco, and these crops yield larger per acre values than grain, hay, and forage. The gross per acre values are in our favor, but the net values lie in favor of their food and feed crops because they are cultivated upon larger

average acreages per worker, with labor-saving or profit-producing machinery. Our gross yields per acre are therefore larger than theirs; their net yields per worker are larger than ours. We handle more crop money than they; they save and accumulate greater wealth than we.

3. Producing Power of Carolina Counties

Crop producing power in North Carolina ranged from $4.83 per acre in Alleghany in 1910 for $42.02 in Scotland. See Table III, p. 37.

The figures are small for Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga because they are counties that raise no cotton or tobacco. They are livestock counties and their farm land is largely in pasture. They rank low in the scale of per-acre crop values but they rank high in per capita country wealth in farm properties—1st, 6th, and 14th in the order named.

At the head of the column of per-acre crop values are Scotland, Robeson, and Pamlico with average yields of $42.02, $32.49, and $31.12 respectively. They are cotton and tobacco counties. They handle more crop money year by year, but in per capita country wealth they rank 2nd, 16th, and 54th in the order named. In the total value of farm wealth annually produced in North Carolina Robeson ranks 1st; in per-acre production 2nd; but in per capita wealth it falls to 16th. The last figure is explained by the cash-crop, farm-tenancy system of the county, along with the heavy negro population.

4. Significant Comparisons

It is interesting to compare the 8 leading farm counties of the United States as celebrated by the Census authorities in 1910, with the 8 banner agricultural counties of North Carolina. See Table I, p. 35.

Los Angeles county, California, ranked 1st in the total production of crop wealth. But the per-acre yield averaged only $35; while in Scotland county, North Carolina, it was $42.02.

Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, averaged only $28 per acre; while in Robeson county the average was $32.49.

The famous McLean county, Illinois, produced only $18.00 worth of crop products per acre upon an average. Thirty-three counties of North Carolina made a better showing in the 1910 Census.

The explanation lies in the per acre value of tobacco, cotton, and sweet potatoes, in our variety of soils, our abundant, well distributed rainfall, and our long growing seasons. We work with Nature in our favor the whole year through. The farmers struggle against Nature in the North and West. In the South Nature struggles with the farmers to express her powers fully and to display her bounties abundantly. The asset we have in climate alone is a treasure beyond all computa-

tion; and it is as yet largely unrealized, particularly in livestock farming in the South.

But when we contrast the power of these same counties to retain and accumulate farm wealth the differences are startling. Below we give the per acre crop production and the per capita country wealth in farm properties. This table provokes endless reflection.

Table I

	Per Acre Yield	Per Capita Wealth
1. Los Angeles County, Cal.	$35.00	$2,169
2. Lancaster County, Penn.	28.00	823
3. Aroostook County, Me.	23.00	1,191
4. McLean County, Ill.	18.00	3,865
5. Livingston County, Ill.	18.00	3,815
6. La Salle County, Ill.	17.00	3,145
7. Iroquois County, Ill.	16.00	2,957
8. Whitman County, Wash.	14.00	2,414
1. Scotland Count, N. C.	$42.02	$466
2. Robeson County, N. C.	32.49	355
3. Pamlico County, N. C.	31.12	263
4. Dare County, N. C.	30.27	45
5. New Hanover County, N. C.	29.08	181
6. Wilson County, N. C.	28.70	377
7. Johnston County, N. C.	27.71	330
8. Beaufort County, N. C.	26.05	267

These western farmers are mainly grain, hay, and livestock farmers. We are crop farmers mainly or merely. They cultivate large average areas per farmer, with abundant horse and machine power. In North Carolina we average only 14.5 cultivated acres per farm worker, and cultivate cash crops with simple hand tools for the most part.

We have large yields per acre, small yields per worker, large expenses, small profits, and little accumulated farm wealth. They have small yields per acre, large yields per worker, smaller expense, larger profits, and greater accumulated farm wealth.

Our fundamental deficiency lies in our tenancy farm system. It is the greatest of all obstacles to farm development and country civilization in the South. It hinders every reform and scotches every forward move.

5. Why We Lead and Where We Lag

We lead in per-acre production of crop wealth, said Mr. Huff, because our tobacco, cotton, and sweet potatoes are more valuable than

their cereals, hay and forage; and not because of our richer soils, our more ample farm equipments, or our greater industry and skill.

We lead in the production of crop wealth per acre; they lead in the production of crop wealth per man. We lead in the production of crop wealth; they lead in the retention of farm wealth.

Our farm income is mainly from the sale of crops. We are crop farmers for the most part, and market our products on four wheels. Their farm income is mainly from the sale of livestock and animal products. They feed their crops to their own livestock and market them on four legs.

Besides, these western farmers are in the region of successful co-operative farm enterprise. We are only just beginning to widen the margins of farm profit by forming marketing associations.

Catawba and Wilkes have made a successful beginning in co-operative enterprise. When will the rest of our counties follow?

6. Sources of Information

The 1910 Census Volumes on Agriculture, Populations, and Occupations.

Nov. 8, 1915.

TABLE II

PER ACRE CROP YIELDS, COVERING 12 LEADING CROPS IN 1914

U. S. AVERAGE $16.34

1	Connecticut	$41.50	18	Kentucky	20.22
2	Massachusetts	36.20	19	Vermont	20.20
3	Rhode Island	32.07	20	North Carolina	20.18
4	Nevada	29.70	21	Oregon	19.87
5	Arizona	29.34	22	Ohio	19.78
6	New Jersey	28.70	23	Colorado	18.97
7	Washington	23.96	24	Michigan	18.96
8	New Mexico	23.58	25	Wyoming	$18.54
9	Maryland	23.25	26	Wisconsin	18.53
10	Utah	22.72	27	California	18.40
11	New Hampshire	22.58	28	Montana	18.23
12	Delaware	22.43	29	Virginia	18.12
13	Maine	22.15	30	Iowa	17.92
14	Pennsylvania	22.13	31	South Carolina	17.88
15	New Jersey	21.06	32	Florida	17.39
16	Idaho	20.90	33	Indiana	17.25
17	West Virginia	20.61	34	Tennessee	16.75

35	Illinois	16.25	42	Missouri	13.96
36	Kansas	15.66	43	Mississippi	13.68
37	Louisiana	15.40	44	Texas	13.48
38	Georgia	14.59	45	Minnesota	13.19
39	Nebraska	14.19	46	Oklahoma	12.21
40	Alabama	14.16	47	North Dakota	11.10
41	Arkansas	14.01	48	South Dakota	10.79

Table III

PER-ACRE CROP YIELDS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Based on the 1910 Census

Rank	Counties	Per Acre yield	Rank	Counties	Per Acre Yield
1	Scotland	$42.02	32	Lee	18.21
2	Robeson	32.49	33	Hyde	18.15
3	Pamlico	31.12	34	Pender	17.93
4	Dare	30.27	35	Bertie	17.92
5	New Hanover	29.08	36	Gates	17.64
6	Wilson	28.70	37	Duplin	17.62
7	Johnston	27.71	38	Vance	17.57
8	Beaufort	26.05	39	Northampton	17.02
9	Richmond	25.64	40	Washington	16.81
10	Columbus	24.56	41	Gaston	16.54
11	Nash	24.36	42	Bladen	16.06
12	Greene	24.25	43	Durham	15.86
13	Pitt	24.23	44	Franklin	15.81
14	Cumberland	23.97	45	Currituck	15.76
15	Wayne	22.84	46	Montgomery	15.63
16	Chowan	21.95	47	Stokes	15.51
17	Edgecombe	21.78	47	Jones	15.51
18	Anson	21.38	49	Craven	15.26
19	Wake	21.34	50	Rockingham	14.66
20	Harnett	21.10	51	Moore	14.64
21	Hertford	20.05	52	Person	14.55
22	Brunswick	19.87	53	Cabarrus	14.39
23	Carteret	19.78	54	Forsyth	14.13
24	Martin	19.62	55	Rowan	14.04
25	Warren	19.11	56	Stanly	13.94
26	Lenoir	19.03	57	Onslow	13.89
27	Cleveland	19.00	58	Polk	13.81
28	Mecklenburg	18.88	59	Rutherford	13.69
29	Halifax	18.63	60	Camden	13.67
30	Sampson	18.38	61	Tyrrell	13.33
31	Union	18.35	62	Chatham	13.16

63	Surry	13.15
64	Orange	13.13
65	Caswell	12.76
66	Catawba	12.62
67	Granville	12.60
68	Lincoln	12.46
69	Pasquotank	12.24
70	Swain	12.17
71	Iredell	12.15
72	Guilford	12.03
73	Davidson	11.97
74	Alamance	11.57
75	Perquimans	11.47
76	Burke	11.10
77	Randolph	10.96
78	Yadkin	10.82
79	Caldwell	10.80
80	McDowell	10.69
81	Transylvania	10.48
82	Jackson	10.25
83	Alexander	9.79
84	Clay	9.73
85	Henderson	9.24
86	Cherokee	9.13
87	Yancey	9.04
88	Mitchell	8.96
89	Davie	8.93
90	Graham	8.92
91	Haywood	8.53
92	Wilkes	7.91
93	Buncombe	7.84
94	Macon	7.81
95	Madison	7.66
96	Ashe	5.34
97	Watauga	5.25
98	Alleghany	4.83

The Crop-Producing Power of Carolina Farmers

F. H. Deaton, *Iredell County*

The crop-producing power of North Carolina farms is great, said Mr. F. H. Deaton, of Iredell county, to the Carolina Club at the first meeting in November; but, he added, the productive power of Carolina farmers is small.

For instance, in the census year it took 605,000 farm workers in North Carolina to produce crop wealth amounting to $143,000,000; while 131,000 farm workers in North Dakota produced crop wealth amounting to $180,000,000.

In North Dakota the per capita production of crop wealth was $1,378; in North Carolina it was only $236, or less than a fifth as much.

A Significant Chart

Here Mr. Deaton exhibited a large chart chart showing (1) the per capita production of crop wealth, and (2) the per capita country wealth in farm properties in each state of the Union in 1910. See accompanying table.

The crop wealth produced by the 12,000,000 farmers of the United States in 1910 averaged $408 per farm worker. Per capita crop production ranged from $135 in New Mexico to $1,378 in North Dakota.

In North Carolina it averaged $236. Forty-three states made better showings; only four states made poorer—Louisiana $228, Mississippi $219, Alabama $218, and New Mexico $135.

Where the Difference Lies

Why does a farm worker in North Dakota produce upon an average nearly six times as great crop wealth as a farm worker in North Carolina? Our acre of cotton or tobacco even under ordinary cultivation produces values from two to five times the values produced by an ordinary acre in cereals or hay and forage in the West. What explains the greater productive power of the North Dakota farmer?

The greater crop values produced per worker in forty-three other states lie mainly in the larger farms, in the greater average of cultivated acres per farmer, in better methods of cropping and cultivation, and in the greater use of horse and machine power. Cotton and tobacco are for the most part hand-made crops on small farms; the cereals, hay and forage of the West are machine-made crops on medium size farms. With profit-producing farm machinery the North Dakota farmer secures crop values per worker nearly six times as great as those of the cotton and tobacco farmer.

The Curse of Illiteracy

A fundamental source of difference lies in rural illiteracy. Almost exactly one-third or 33.3 per cent of our country negroes are illiterate; and counting both races, nearly one-fifth or 19.6 per cent of our entire country population is illiterate. In North Dakota only 3.2 per cent of the country population is illiterate.

Unschooled and unskilled labor of any sort produces less wealth than intelligent, well-directed effort produces. And what is more, it retains less of the wealth it produces.

Herein lies the explanation of our small per capita country wealth in North Carolina; $322. It is smaller in only four state of the Union —Florida $325, Mississippi $300, Louisiana $287, and Alabama $231.

The states that head the list in per capita country wealth are North Dakota $2,344, Illinois $2,628, South Dakota $2,993, Nebraska $3,259, and Iowa $3,386. Country illiteracy in these states ranges from 3.2 per cent in the Dakotas to 1.6 per cent in Iowa. As illiteracy decreases the wealth producing and retaining power of a people increases.

The people that read are the people that lead, says Clarence Poe.

The penalties we pay for wide-spread illiteracy are appalling; and these economic penalties are among the least of them all.

Sources of Information

The 1910 Census Volumes on Agriculture, Occupations, and Populations.

Nov. 8, 1915.

CROP PRODUCTION PER FARM WORKER

BASED ON THE 1910 CENSUS VOLUMES ON AGRICULTURE, POPULATIONS, AND OCCUPATIONS

F. H. Deaton and S. H. DeVault

UNITED STATES AVERAGE $408

Rank	States	Per Capita Crop Produc.	Per Capita Country Wealth
1	North Dakota	$1,378	$2,344
2	South Dakota	1,004	2,993
3	Nebraska	968	3,259
4	Iowa	884	3,386
5	Illinois	826	2,628
6	Kansas	783	2,111
7	Washington	781	1,533
8	California	703	2,139

9	Minnesota	692	1,642
10	Nevada	675	1,013
11	Idaho	618	1,551
12	Vermont	612	868
13	Colorado	599	1,652
14	Indiana	595	1,438
15	Oregon	582	1,911
16	New York	557	921
17	Montana	553	1,676
18	Ohio	550	1,153
19	Maine	505	561
20	New Jersey	503	531
21	Wisconsin	499	1,295
22	Utah	494	1,258
23	Missouri	481	1,337
24	Connecticut	479	1,399
25	Pennsylvania	476	511
26	Michigan	471	909
27	New Hampshire	459	595
28	Massachusetts	434	939
29	Wyoming	405	2,093
30	Oklahoma	383	830
31	Maryland	377	503
32	Delaware	349	829
33	Texas	321	821
34	Georgia	314	325
35	Rhode Island	313	1,838
36	Kentucky	307	500
37	Florida	298	321
38	Virginia	282	425
39	South Carolina	275	337
40	Tennessee	259	380
41	Arkansas	255	334
42	West Virginia	252	365
43	Arizona	251	602
44	North Carolina	236	322
45	Louisiana	228	287
46	Mississippi	219	300
47	Alabama	218	231
48	New Mexico	135	606

Per-Acre and Per-Worker Crop Yields

University News Letter Editorial, Vol. II, No. 18

In the preceding table Messrs. Deaton and DeVault exhibit (1) the average crop wealth produced per farm worker in 1910, and (2) the per capita farm wealth of country populations in the United States.

They have based their figures on the 1910 census volumes on agriculture, populations, and occupations. The first named volume gives the crop wealth produced in each state and the value of all farm property; the second gives the country populations outside all incorporated towns; and the third, the number of persons actually engaged in farming in each state—owners, tenants, wage hands, hired men, and so on. They have omitted wood-lot products, and people engaged in forestry industries.

Not all the accumulated wealth of farmers appears in the census reports on agriculture; say, household goods and utensils, cash in hand and in the bank, bank stock, solvent credits, and the like. But with these forms of wealth omitted, the states are on the same footing for comparison. If it were possible to include them, our rank in North Carolina would perhaps be even more distressing.

Large Crop Values Per Acre

These things said, what is our position in North Carolina in the scale of agriculture?

Our rank is high in per-acre crop yielding power. In 1909, our average yield was $22.28 per acre. Only eight states made a better showing — Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, South Carolina, Mississippi, Arizona, and Utah.

We rank ahead of all the fertile prairie states of the middle west in this particular; because an average acre in cotton or tobacco will produce greater crop values than an average acre in cereals, hay and forage.

We rank below South Carolina and Mississippi, because around two-thirds of their total crop values from year to year are produced by cotton alone; in North Carolina around one-third of them. We rank ahead of both of these states in pounds of cotton and in cotton values per acre; as follows in 1909—North Carolina, $33.01; South Carolina, $31.43, and Mississippi, $24.45 per acre.

Small Crop Values Per Farmer

But unhappily large crop values per acre do not mean large crop values per farm worker. For instance, in the census year it took 605,000 farmers in North Carolina to produce crop wealth amounting to

$143,000,000; while in North Dakota 131,000 farm workers produced $180,000,000 of crop wealth. The per capita crop producing power of our farmers was $236; and in North Dakota it was $1,378.

That is to say, upon an average, a single farmer in North Dakota produced nearly six times the crop wealth that a farmer in North Carolina produced.

In average crop-producing power per farmer, we are near the bottom of the list. Only four states made a poorer showing; Louisiana $228, Mississippi $319, Alabama $218, and New Mexico $135.

In 24 states the average crop wealth produced per farm worker averaged more than double that produced by the North Carolina farmer; in 7 states it was more than three times our average; in 3 states—Nebraska, North and South Dakota—it was more than four times; and in North Dakota more than five times our average.

Machine-made and Hand-made Crops

The leading crops of North Dakota are wheat and oats and the 13th census reports their wheat crop as worth $13.33, and their oats crop $11.23 per acre. The same year our cotton averaged $33.01, and our tobacco $62.41 per acre.

What, then, will account for the power of the North Dakota farmers to produce greater crop values per worker? We have nearly as much invested in farm implements per acre as they, $2.10 against $2.14; and more work animals, cultivated acres considered—one for every 25 acres in North Carolina, against one for every 31 acres in North Dakota. A main difference lies in the fact that North Dakota is a region of medium size farms. Our farms average 35 cultivated acres each; theirs 275 acres. Their work animals average 9 per farm and their equipment in farm implements and machinery $590. Our farms average 1 1-3 work animals and $73 worth of farm implements per farm.

Small-scale and Medium-scale Farms

The size of their farms enables them to economize human, horse, and machine power. Their various grain and forage crops distribute their labor fairly evenly throughout the year. Our standard crops are made with light machines and simple hand-tools for the most part; their crops are largely made with labor-saving machinery. Our leading crops call for more than six times the human labor, and thus reduce the gross returns and the net profits per worker.

Our farms tend steadily to decrease in average size, a fact that calls for more hand-labor and less machine power. It may mean larger crops per acre, but it also means smaller yields per worker.

Our Livestock Possibilities

D. N. EDWARDS, *Wilkes County*

At the last fortnightly meeting of the North Carolina Club, Nov. 22, Mr. D. N. Edwards, of Wilkes county, discussed The Advantages of Livestock Farming in North Carolina.

Poultry and Eggs

1. Speaking of poultry, he said that in 1910 we had in North Carolina 5,000,000 fowls, Wisconsin had 9,000,000 and Iowa 23,000,000; but our hens showed an egg-producing power equal to that of these western fowls, while in poultry production we ran far ahead. Wisconsin, for instance, produced during the year 10,000,000 fowls, while North Carolina produced 15,000,000. A little more attention to the breed and care of fowls would make North Carolina the greatest poultry state in the Union. As it is, we produce neither poultry nor eggs equal to the demands of home consumption in North Carolina.

Pork Production

2. In pork production we again have everything in our favor—short, mild winters, abundant water everywhere, winter pastures, peanuts, potatoes and corn. Pork can be produced in North Carolina at any time at a third less per pound than in the Middle West. Our brood sows have more litters in a year, larger litters as a rule, and a smaller per cent of pigs lost. Nevertheless in 1910 we had only 39 pigs per 1,000 acres; while Iowa had 212. We had barely more than half a swine per inhabitant; while Iowa had more than three porkers per person. We had 70,000,000 pounds of pork to buy abroad; they had nearly a billion pounds to sell. In 1910 only 26 counties were raising enough pork for home consumption.

Cattle Possibilities

3. Beef production under frontier conditions on free ranges is ended, and the nation's meat supply must now be produced on the farms of the country. North Carolina with her twenty-two million wilderness acres is ready for the new era; and the South with two hundred million acres of uncultivated land ought now to take the lead in beef, milk, and butter production. Our soils and seasons offer mild winters, well watered grazing areas, permanent pastures, winter cover crops, silage crops, feed and forage crops in abundance—all these actually or possibly with proper skill and attention.

We need big beef sires, more and better breeds of dairy cows, and riddance of the cattle tick. We need cash livestock markets within possible reach of our farmers; and railroad arrangements, conveniences, facilities and rates that will tempt our farmers into livestock farming and reward them for the venture. Local butchering, packing and refrigerating plants, and well managed city markets are also indispensable. Our beef supply will be locally raised when the farmers have an assured profit in the business; and not before.

At present we have only 31 cattle of all sorts per 1,000 acres. Forty-five counties have only 20 or fewer; and six counties have fewer than 10 each. We could easily have 61 per 1,000 acres—the average for the country-at-large. But the change will come slowly. Successful livestock farming is bred into a people only by generations of education and experience.

Dairy farming is now rising into prominence in our foothill and mountain counties—in Catawba, Iredell, Mecklenburg, Union, Watauga, Ashe and Alleghany. Here is a region of increasing interest in better breeds of dairy animals, forage crops and silos, creameries, and cream routes, cheese factories, and the like.

The farmers are discovering that these enterprises turn in comfortable profits every week the year around. And here is the most promising farm area in North Carolina.

Colt Raising

4. As for colts, said he, we raise fewer and fewer of them year by year in North Carolina—only 13,778 in the census year. Our annual need for new work animals is around 45,000—due to old age, service, exposure, and disease. At the lowest estimate we must import around 30,000 horses and mules per year, and send out of the state some six million dollars in ready cash for work animals.

Colts can be raised at a profit. The farmers in Tennessee, Kentucky and Missouri do it. Our need is permanent pastures, hay and forage, interest, attention and skill far more than we have at present.

North Carolina is still on the lowest rung of the ladder as an agricultural state; that is to say, her farm income is from crop sales merely or mainly. When we rise into livestock farming and our farm income is mainly from the sale of livestock and livestock products, we will be worth from $3,000 to $3,300 apiece in the country regions, as in the western states, and not $322 apiece—or even less, as in Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, and Louisiana.

Balancing Up Our Farm System

Farming in the Cotton Belt of the South is crop farming mainly or merely. For the most part our farm incomes are from the sale of

crops. At present our incomes from the sale of livestock and livestock products are small, ranging from 20 per cent in South Carolina and Mississippi to 45 per cent in Arkansas. These by the way are the figures of the Federal Crop Report, Oct. 16, 1916.

In 1910, North Carolina was 37 per cent below the level of even a lightly stocked farm area; and in 1915 only thirty-three per cent of our farm income arose from the sale of livestock and livestock products.

In short, our farm system is unbalanced, instable, and unsafe. And this fact explains the small total of loans on farm land, and the high average of total interest rates paid by our farmers.

The farmers of Iowa, a well developed livestock state, secure a larger volume of credit from banks and insurance companies than the Cotton Belt states all put together.

An immense development of livestock farming is needed in North Carolina. We need to keep at home the millions of ready cash that now go out of the state for work animals, beef and mutton, salt pork sides, cheese, butter, poultry and eggs.

What Livestock Farming Means

Sufficient domestic animals on our farms would require and reward diversified cropping. Without them, our gospel of diversification is pure sentiment instead of good business. With them, human, horse, and machine power can be distributed equably throughout the year, the labor cost of production can be lowered, and the margin of profit widened; our farms can steadily increase in productive power, our bank savings can grow, and with greater cash operating capital our farmers can be free from the expensive time-credit system that so grievously afflicts the South.

After 250 years of civilization in North Carolina we have been able to save and accumulate a per capita country wealth in farm properties amounting to only $322! In the Middle West the farmers are self-feeding, and therefore self-financing. Their per capita wealth in farm properties in 1910 ranged from $1,438 in Indiana to $3,386 in Iowa.

Our meagre country wealth indicates a minimum prosperity. Three hundred and twenty-two dollars indicates small cash operating capital in our farm regions, and even less collateral with which to secure it during the growing and marketing seasons.

Sources of Information

Federal Crop Report, Oct. 16, 1916.

The 1910 Census Volumes on Agriculture, Occupations, and Populations.

The *University News Letter* files.

Nov. 22, 1915.

Co-operative Enterprise in North Carolina

L. P. Gwaltney, Jr., *Alexander County*

At the first meeting in December, Mr. L. P. Gwaltney, Jr., of Alexander county, passed in review for the North Carolina Club the subject of Co-operative Farm Enterprise in North Carolina. The discussion covered a wide and interesting field of State problems.

Dr. T. N. Carver, expert economic adviser of the Federal Department of Agriculture, found 6,388 co-operative enterprises in the United States in 1914, mainly in the middle West, as follows: 336 cheese factories, 2,165 creameries, 2,020 elevators, and 1,867 mutual insurance companies these last being well distributed throughout the North as well as the West.

Our own State appears in this report to the small extent of two creameries. Nevertheless, the farmers of North Carolina have made a creditable beginning in co-operative enterprise.

Co-operative Telephones

1. For instance, in 1912 there were 718 telephone systems in North Carolina, 109,000 miles of wire, and 65,000 telephones. Some 650 of these were country telephone systems, owned and operated privately by groups of farmers. They had in use around 35,000 miles of wire, and some 20,000 telephones. There are 1,200 country 'phones on co-operative lines in Orange county alone.

Mutual Insurance

2. The Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Association with headquarters in Raleigh has nearly 20,000 members, who carry insurance amounting to $17,570,000 at an average cost of $3.60 per thousand; in Catawba county it is only $1.50 per thousand.

In addition to another association of this sort with headquarters in Rocky Mount, there are Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance companies in Gaston, Mecklenburg, Rowan, and Union counties carrying insurance on three and a third million dollars worth of farm property.

Farmers' Union Enterprises

3. The Farmers Union in North Carolina is the best organized, the most active, and the most influential union in the United States; and their co-operative enterprises number fifty or so—mainly warehouses, merchandise stores, fertilizer concerns and the like. The total investment in these enterprises is $207,775, and they did business in 1914 amounting to $1,042,500. They handled $375,000 worth of fertilizers alone.

Catawba Leads

4. Catawba county leads the state in farm co-operation. Five years ago the farmers invested $1,500 in a creamery. Last year it did a business of $245,505 in butter, poultry, and eggs. A thousand co-operating farmers sold through this agency 228,700 dozen eggs, and 600,000 pounds of butter for the year ending with June, 1914. They got from one to four cents more for their eggs per dozen, and nearly twice as much as before for their butter. Another group of 150 farmers sold 125 car loads of sweet potatoes last season and received $2.67 per crate clear of all expenses. The farmers of this county also have a mutual fire insurance company and a land and loan association, while their wives are organized into two active clubs of United Farm Women. The Co-operative Warehouse in Newton did a business of $25,000 last year.

Dairy Farming

5. Catawba successes in farm co-operation have been followed by creameries in Union and Iredell, at Monroe and Mooresville; and by four cheese facories in Watauga, Ashe, and Alleghany. Nothing succeeds like success, and we may look for wonderful development along all these lines in this region of the State in the next ten years.

Our 425 silos, 3,000 cream separators, 13 creameries, and 5 cheese factories are not large totals for a state with 254,000 farms and 605,000 farmers. But they are a wonderful start toward dairy farming; and dairy farmers soon learn that share profits are double profits. Later on they will take share-profits or no profits at all; or so the Iowa and Minnesota farmers are finding out.

North Carolina Leads in Progressive Legislation

6. So far sixteen states have given legislative support to co-operative enterprise; but the laws passed by our last legislature on this subject are pronounced to be the best of them all. They cover (1) Co-operative Enterprise, (2) Co-operative Credit Societies, and (3) Loan Land and Loan Associations. On December 9th the first Rural Credit Society in North Carolina was organized under these laws—at Lowe's Grove in Durham county. They are likely to succeed, because they are organizing under the guidance of Mr. John Sprunt Hill, of Durham, and Mr. W. R. Camp, the State Superintendent of Co-operative Enterprise.

Already 7 Farm Credit Unions have been organized. The third monthly report of the state superintendent shows that 266 co-operating farmers have invested $1,893 in membership shares, and that the total resources assembled amount to $6,646.

When our farmers, the state over, learn to save, to assemble re-

sources and to establish a proper credit machinery, they will open the way to liberal prosperity in the country regions. Already North Carolina leads the Union in Farm Credit Unions.

But also our farmers have organized 7 Farm Land Banks under the new Federal law. They have applied for $184,000, on land valued at $463,530.

Also the counties are rapidly co-operating with our Federal authorities to secure government cotton graders and warehouses.

The Currituck Farmers

7. The farmers of Currituck have this year sold their sweet potatoes co-operatively like the farmers of the eastern shore of Virginia; and they have learned that profits can be secured only by business-like market methods. The Currituck crop is around 100,000 barrels a year, and it is worth protecting by co-operative methods.

Model Country Communities

8. Organized effort at Salemburg, a country community in Sampson county, and at Philadelphus in Robeson county, has centered upon sanitation, better school facilities, attractive homes, home culture, and community law and order. The success of these efforts has made Salemburg and Philadelphus famous far and wide. It is a form of co-operation that ought to be duplicated in a thousand communities in North Carolina.

9. Sources of Information

The Organization of Rural Interests.—Dr. T. N. Carver, Bulletin Federal Department of Agriculture.

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The 1914 Report of the State Insurance Commissioner.

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Co-operation Among Catawba County Farmers.—Extension Bureau Bulletin, No. 8, of the University of North Carolina.

The 1915 Report of the State Commissioner of Agriculture.

Files of the Extension Farm News.—State Department of Agriculture, State Experiment Station, and the N. C. Agricultural College.

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Dec. 6, 1915.

Economic Freedom in North Carolina

MARION FOWLER, *Orange County*

The fall term studies of the North Carolina Club at the University were closed the other night with a paper upon Economic Freedom in North Carolina, by Mr. Marion Fowler, of Orange county. The round-table discussion ranged over a large field, and is summarized by Mr. E. C. Branson, the club president, as follows:

Our Rural Democracy

The farmers of North Carolina number 605,000, and they cultivate 253,000 farms. They outnumber all other bread-winning groups in the State by 242,000. Our dwellers in the open country number nearly 1,700,000 people, or 79 out of every hundred. Nearly five-sixths of the school children of the State are country children. Nearly three-fourths of our church members are in the country-side. The white voters in our country precincts outnumber the white voters in our towns and cities nearly six to one. The politicians have taken stock of these fundamental facts far better than our church and school authorities.

Freedom in Farm Ownership

The farms occupied and operated by white farm owners in North Carolina number 123,877. That is to say, exactly two-thirds of the white farmers of the state are farm owners. They have their legs under their own tables, as the Danish farmers say. They dwell under their own vines and fig trees unmolested and unafraid. They call no man lord and pay no man rent. They are free agents in pitching their crops and gathering their harvests. Their labor is their own; the fruits of their own fields reward the sweat of their brows. They have a chance to be self-feeding, self-financing farmers, operating upon their own capital, borrowing when they please at fair and reasonable interest rates, selling when they please, and buying what they need for cash at the lowest market prices. All the factors of wealth production—land, labor and capital—center or may center in land-owning farmers. They have or can have freedom of initiative. They are or can be self-employed and self-directed. They are or can be unroutable, unpurchasable, unbribable, free, unterrified American citizens—to use a phrase of Emerson. More and more there is need for such an element of citizenship in our developing democracies.

The Measure of Real Freedom

Economic freedom is a measure of civic freedom. Without it, democracy is an empty name, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing. People who are economically free dwell in assured safety under any form of government. They are swift to see that partisan phrases are usually counterfeit coins. Home and farm owners weather all social storms whatsoever. The worst of political conditions is sourced in land ownership by the few and land orphanage for the many. The direst menace to any land or country lies in an increasing multitude of landless, homeless people.

Free Democracy is Rural

Home-owning farmers in North Carolina are the fundamental asset in our democracy; never to be forgotten and never to be neglected, if we are wise, by church or state. What our home-owning farmers think about child labor, rural and industrial, is all important. The question will never be settled until they settle it; and never settled properly until they are aroused to think about it keenly and wisely. And so with every other question in North Carolina—Crime, Liquor, Lynching, Prison Reform, Illiteracy, Public Schools, Higher Education, Market and Credits, The Short Ballot, The Initiative and Referendum, Tax Reforms, Social Religion, what not. The level of their thinking is the level of our civilization.

Economic Freedom in North Carolina

A comparison of North Carolina with other cotton belt states is illuminating. Named in the order in which cotton is a factor in the production of annual crop wealth, these states are: Louisiana in which 26 per cent of the total crop wealth is produced by cotton alone; Oklahoma, 31 per cent; North Carolina, 35 per cent; Arkansas, 53 per cent; Alabama, 60 per cent; Texas, 63 per cent; Mississippi, 65 per cent; Georgia, 66 per cent, and South Carolina, 67 per cent.

We have more white farm owners in North Carolina than in any other cotton belt state outside of Texas. They number 123,877. They are more than the white farm owners of Louisiana and Oklahoma combined, and nearly as many as in South Carolina and Georgia combined. Nearly exactly two of every three white farmers in North Carolina are land owners; which is the largest ratio in the entire cotton belt.

Cotton Culture and Economic Freedom

Cotton as an economic factor plays its largest part in Georgia and South Carolina. Here around two-thirds of the annual crop wealth

is produced by cotton alone. And here we find in one State that nearly half the white farmers are tenants and renters; and in the other that more than half of them are landless and homeless. They are sojourners, strangers, and pilgrims in the land, without abiding interest in farms, homes, schools, or churches. And what freedom worth the name can white farmers have who are bound, soul and body, to a one-crop, farm-tenancy, supply-merchant, crop-lien system of farming?

King Cotton Demands Serfdom

In North Carolina, on the other hand, barely a third of our annual crop wealth is produced by cotton, and here we find that two-thirds of our white farmers are owners, not tenants. In general, as cotton decreases in importance in a farm area the ownership of farms increases. In Kentucky 66.4 per cent of the white farmers are owners; and in Virginia 74.6 per cent of them. In both these states cotton produces less than one per cent of the annual crop wealth.

Wherever cotton is king he demands not freemen, but serfs as his subjects. For instance, in 24 counties of North Carolina cotton produces from year to year from three-fifths to four-fifths of the total crop wealth; and here are 23,340 white farm tenants. In three of these counties three-fifths of the white farmers are tenants. More than 45 of every 100 white farmers in this farm area own no homes and no farms. Democracy in the cotton belt rests upon the votes of 1,432,000 white farmers, of whom 635,700 are tenants, or 44 in every hundred. The white tenant farmers of the nine cotton belt states are Anglo-Saxons, our own kith, kin and kind; and they outnumber the negro tenants by nearly 25,000.

So far we have confined our figures to white farmers alone in order to show that cotton serfdom is mainly a white man's problem; that it menaces him, and his children, and his children's children even more than it menaces the Southern negro.

Farm Tenancy and Negro Freedom

Indeed, farm tenancy in the South is the negro's way of escape out of tenancy into ownership. In a half century under the operation of this system he has become lord of a vast estate. His landholdings now aggregate an area as large as the state of South Carolina. Nearly exactly a fourth of the negro farmers of the South are farm owners, not farm tenants. In Texas 30 per cent of the negro farmers own the farms they cultivate; in North Carolina 32 per cent, and in Oklahoma, 53 per cent. The rates of increase in negro farm owners during the last census period range from one and a half to five and a half times the rates of white increase. In the Land of Cotton, the negro is working out his own salvation.

The white tenant in competition with him is steadily losing ground. And worse, he is losing the fierce land-lust of his Anglo-Saxon forebears, and is learning to be content with his homeless lot in life.

Increasing interest in cotton culture means decreasing ratios of home and farm ownership among white farmers in the South. The point we stress here is the fact that it means increasing farm tenancy among white farmers. It means for them a gradual return to the sixteenth century villeinage of the Old World countries; it means at last an utter loss of economic freedom.

White Farm Tenants and Southern Industrialism

The 625,723 white tenants with their families represent three and a quarter million souls in the nine cotton belt states. Politically they are free, or nominally so; in reality they live and move and have their being in a stifling world of crop-lien indebtedness. Nevertheless they are part and parcel of Southern democracy; and what is their estate in life?

Our Tenant Farmers

Mr. Joseph T. Holleman, president of the Southern Mortgage Company, and director of the American National Bank of Atlanta, pays them tribute in these words:

"Courageous, honest, patient and long-suffering, when shall they see light? When shall their burdens be lifted? In the springtime they go forth, and with their brothers in black set their hands to the plow. They bend their backs to the burden, and when the frost falls they have added $1,000,000,000 to the wealth of the world. But small, indeed, is their share, and meager their recompense. Every two years, according to the government census, they move from one place to another.

"They build no homes, they live in rude huts, no flowers about their dwellings, no trees to shade them from the sun, consumed by the summer's heat and chilled by the winter's cold, no lawns about their houses, no garden fences; and with the accursed cotton plant crowding the very threshold of their rude dwellings and thrusting its limbs into their very windows, their lot is indeed pitiable.

"Their sons and daughters come to manhood and womanhood, desert the farms and are lost in some distant community. Finally, when their pilgrimage is over, they are laid to rest in the rude church-yards of the country, others take their places and continue the fight. They have established no permanent homes, their kith and kin are scattered far and wide, and the places that knew them once know them no more forever.

"I have no word of criticisms for men like these. I know them,

I have lived among them, I sprang from them. Who shall undertake to lead these men out of the wilderness of their troubles? Men whom they elevate to high offices in the state and national government are ever ready to teach them politics, but they are not prepared to help them solve their problems of life. A fearful responsibility rests at this time upon men in authority and men in high offices. Will they meet it?"

Economic Freedom and Industrial Security

These three and a quarter million landless whites in the country regions of the cotton belt are swarming out of farm life into our mill villages. The movement is as distinct and pronounced as the exodus out of Egypt. But it is a movement away from the world of agriculture which is essentially democratic. The smallest measure of economic freedom in the farm regions is larger than the largest measure of economic freedom in the world of organized industry. They move out of a world of measurable sovereignty into a world of measureless subjection, in which they have no share in conducting the business from which they draw their support, and no voice in its management. Their share of the wealth they help to produce, depends upon the righteous will of their employers. They have entered a world of feudalism. We like to think that it is increasingly a benevolent feudalism; but it is feudalism nevertheless.

Democratic governments are based upon political freedom. Organized business is based upon subjection, upon support and protection in return for service and loyal submission; and so far we have found no practical reconciliation of economic freedom and industrial security. We have worked upon the perilous assumption that the two are irreconcilable opposites. And perhaps they are under the law of the land, but not so under the law of love that the Master of men had in mind.

Summary

Reviewing the discussion, the points covered were as follows: (1) economic freedom is a measure of all freedom, political or otherwise, (2) economic freedom in largest measure is rural, and in least measure industrial, (3) rural freedom belongs mainly to land-owning farmers, and meagerly to farm tenants, (4) cotton culture means decreasing economic freedom among white farmers, but is a way of escape for negroes into ownership, (5) Southern industrialism is based on discontent among white farm tenants, (6) white farm owners in North Carolina are a larger proportion of all white farmers than in any other cotton belt state, (7) our white landowning farmers outnumber any other voting group in the state, and the measure of their culture is

the measure and mainspring of our democracy, (8) as a consequence, the range and variety of free political discussion and progressive legislation is far greater in North Carolina than anywhere else in the cotton belt, (9) in this atmosphere of free opinion North Carolina has a chance to reconcile economic freedom, industrial safety and civic progress, and (10) in this fact lies the hope that we may build a great commonwealth upon immovable foundation stones in our state.

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Jan. 10, 1916.

Our Twenty-two Million Wilderness Acres

LAWTON BLANTON, *Cleveland County*

The subject considered by the North Carolina Club at the University on February 7 was Our Twenty-two Million Idle Acres: Why Idle, the Consequences, and the Remedies. The discussion was led by Mr. Lawton Blanton, of Cleveland county. A brief report follows.

Our Kingdom of Silence and Solitude

Seventy-one per cent of all the land in North Carolina is a wilderness of idle acres. Nearly nine million acres are in forest, while thirteen million acres are in scrub pines, broomsedge, and like growths. Only nine million acres are under the plow and in pasture. Our waste area is more than double our cultivated area. There is enough idle land in the state for 250,000 new farm families, allowing 75 acres to each family and reserving 50,000 acres in each county for wood-lot uses.

The per cent of uncultivated land ranges from 34.9 per cent in Alamance to 98.4 per cent in Dare. There are more people engaged in farming in North Carolina than in both manufacture and transportation combined. And yet we have enough idle acres to increase our country population 100 per cent. This is the more important when we consider that North Carolina produced in crops alone in 1915 wealth amounting to $202,000,000 or $46,000,000 more than the resources of the banks of the state have accumulated in 250 years. And mind you our farms created this enormous wealth in a single year.

Larger Population and Greater Wealth

North Carolina needs more people—not more tenants, but more home-owning farmers. The population of the state is too sparse. Our rural population in the state at large is only 39 to the square mile. We have nine counties with fewer than 20 people and three counties with fewer than 15 to the square mile. In these twelve counties there are nearly 4,000,000 wilderness acres. The idle land in the lower Cape Fear region alone almost exactly equals the entire farm area of Belgium.

If our farm population were doubled our country wealth would be increased $407,000,000. This increase is reckoned on our present small per capita rural wealth of $322. Their productive power would add $100,000,000 a year to our present total of crops and animal products. It would mean larger support for churches, schools, roads, and public health. Denser population would help to decrease illiteracy, social

aloofness, and the raw individualism that now retard organization and co-operative country enterprises.

Why So Many Wilderness Acres

About three million acres are at present too stumpy, steep and rocky, wet and acid to cultivate. But for the most part our wilderness area is due to bad social and political conditions, such as farm tenancy, illiteracy, sparsity of population, mixture of races, speculative interest in rising land values, and a vicious tax system.

Mr. Blanton next showed how, in obedience to the natural law of segregation, white people are selling out and leaving districts where negroes are an increasing majority, while at the same time the negroes are seeking negro settlements. And further, according to Mr. Blanton, the land speculator is another great factor that is largely responsible for the vast area of waste land in North Carolina and throughout the entire South. The farm lands of North Carolina increased in value $202,000,000 in the last census period, and land owners are holding their lands not to improve them but to reap this great profit in steadily rising land values.

A Vicious Tax System

A large part of the blame for this state of affairs should be laid at the door of our vicious system of taxation. The big land owner lists his land at from $2 to $5 per acre despite the fact that he is expecting to get from $50 to $60 per acre for it. In one township in the state 85,000 acres appeared on the 1915 tax list at 57 cents per acre. Our rule is low tax values and high market prices.

On the other hand, the small farmer on his 50-acre plat works hard, improves his land and equips his farm. As a consequence his taxes increase and he is punished for his industry and thrift. He has been an active, productive citizen, adding value to his own property and to all other property in the community.

And he is penalized for it by our system of taxation, while the owner of idle lands is retarded. It is profoundly immoral to punish industry and reward idleness.

Our Landless Multitudes

The consequences of such a condition in the state are far-reaching. For instance, the tenants and renters in our town and country regions in 1910 numbered with their families 1,158,000 souls.

They are landless and homeless in a state that contains 22,000,000 unoccupied and unused acres. And they cannot buy farms and homes because the prices are too far beyond their means.

It is useless to advertise North Carolina abroad so long as the

owners of idle lands are allowed to build around the state a Chinese wall of high prices for town and country real estate.

New Zealand's Way

Twenty years ago New Zealand solved the problem of home ownership, by a graduated land tax. Henry Demorest Lloyd's account of this experiment ought to be familiar to thoughtful people everywhere. A wise adaptation of New Zealand's law is demanded in America. In this land of the free 55,000,000 of our 92,000,000 people in 1910 were landless and homeless.

In North Carolina our homeless people numbered in the census year 1,158,000. They were 52.5 per cent of our entire population; in the United States they were 60 per cent.

Home and farm ownership is a fundamental condition of safe civilization; and our present tax system promotes increasing homelessness both in our city and country regions.

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February 7, 1916.

Our Need for Greater Wealth

R. E. Price, *Rutherford County*

The North Carolina Club at its last session discussed Wealth, Welfare, and Willingness in North Carolina: (1) our meagre stores of wealth, (2) why we need greater wealth, and (3) our willingness to convert wealth into community well-being. The discussion was led by Mr. R. E. Price, of Rutherford county.

1. Wealth, said he, is the material basis of welfare and well being. A developing democracy must be self-supporting in order to be self-directing, self-protecting, and self-elevating. We need greater wealth in order to meet the increasing demands of civilization.

We Need Greater Wealth

Our undeveloped resources call for capital. Our farm regions need more money for operating expenses and marketing purposes. We need improved public highways. We need whole-time health officers and community nurses. We need better hospital facilities for our afflicted —the victims of tuberculosis, pellagra, epilepsy, insanity, blindness, deafness, and old age. We need more money for our old soldiers and our orphans.

We need better schools, better buildings and equipments, better trained and better paid teachers. We need an increase of public library facilities; and more money for our normal schools, our A. & M. College, and our University. The churches need greater wealth for support and enlargement, for education, missions, and the care of aged ministers.

All these necessities evidence our need for greater private wealth, and greater public revenues in our state and county treasuries.

We have the natural resources and the sturdy population out of which to build a great commonwealth, but we have not yet made the most of ourselves or our state.

We produce great wealth year by year but we retain too little of it, and hence our low rank in accumulated wealth among the states of the Union. The per capita country wealth of North Carolina in 1910 was only $322 against $994 in the United States, $2,628 in Illinois, and $3,386 in Iowa. Our per capita wealth, all property considered in 1912, was only $794; while that of Iowa was $3,539 and that of Nevada $5,038. Mississippi with $726 is alone of all the 48 states poorer than North Carolina. These are the figures of a recent Census Bureau Bulletin.

Why Our Wealth Is Small

3. There are many causes for such a condition in North Carolina. Briefly stated, the meagre accumulation of wealth in North Carolina can be attributed largely to two main causes, viz.: (1) our one-crop, farm-tenancy, supply-merchant system in the cotton and tobacco counties, and (2) the lack of diversified crops and livestock farming.

Our small per capital farm wealth in North Carolina is not altogether due to lack of energy and thrift. The fundamental reason lies in our farm system, a system that is not yet on a self-feeding, live-at-home foundation, for it does not produce food and feed for man and beast in quantities sufficient for home consumption.

Dare and New Hanover counties could increase their farm wealth three-fold within a single year, if they would raise sufficient food and feed supplies for home consumption. In the same way, Durham and Carteret could double their country wealth in a single year; Vance, Madison, Brunswick, Craven, and Pasquotank in two years; and 15 other counties could do the same thing in the same way in three years. These statements are all based on 1910 census figures.

Sending cotton and tobacco money out of a state for food and feed supplies that can be raised at home is a spendthrift system. Mr. Clark Howell, editor of the *Atlanta Constitution,* denounces it as economic insanity.

Last year we were $49,000,000 richer in food crops and livestock than in 1910. This fact evidences a marvelous gain in agricultural wisdom during these five years; but the meat-and-bread farmers of the West are still getting millions upon millions of our cotton and tobacco money. They fill their purses while we empty ours by this system.

This single fact accounts in large part for our small per capita wealth in North Carolina; and it results in a lack of public revenues for public progress. For instance, the per capita tax burden for public education in North Carolina is only $1.76 per inhabitant. It is less in South Carolina and Mississippi alone. It is more in 45 states. It is $3.48 in Texas, $4.15 in Oklahoma, $7.48 in Nebraska, and $10.54 in Montana.

We Need Greater Willingness

4. Thus we see that Montana spends six times as much per inhabitant for public education as North Carolina. This expenditure is not in proportion to the wealth of the two states. The per capita wealth of Montana, all property considered, was $2,854 in 1912; while that of North Carolina was $794. The wealth of Montana is 3.6 times that of North Carolina; but she spends six times as much per inhabitant for public education.

This fact shows that the people of Montana are more willing to convert their wealth into public welfare and well-being than the people of North Carolina.

However poor we may be in North Carolina our wealth is greater than our willingness. For instance, our investment in automobiles on January 1, 1915, was $11,000,000, but our investment in public school property according to Superintendent Joyner's last report was only $9,080,000.

Nevertheless, we are not bankrupted by our motor cars. There are 27 counties in North Carolina that have more wealth invested in automobiles than in public school property, and 14 more counties in which the investments are about equal.

The State over, our year bill for tires alone is more than the money we spend in building and equipping new public schools. The annual upkeep of our motor cars calls for more ready cash than the salaries of all our teachers and superintendents.

Dare and Alleghany

Our counties show great differences in willingness to bear tax burdens for public progress and prosperity. For instance, Dare with a per capita country wealth in farm properties amounting to only $47, is the poorest county in the state; while Alleghany, with a per capita country wealth of $560, is the richest county in the state. Nevertheless, every school district in Dare levies a special school tax, while only two of the forty school districts in Alleghany were special tax districts, according to the last report. Alleghany leads in wealth and lags in willingness; Dare lags in wealth and leads in willingness.

There are many similar contrasts in North Carolina, and they serve to show that we are still rich enough to invest in what we want most, but too poor to spend money on what we want least.

North Carolina in the years gone by has wrought miracles out of hard, untoward circumstances and conditions; but the state is now attempting to make brick without straw. Without larger measures of wealth and willingness, we shall fail to develop the finest possibilities of the fairest state in the sisterhood of American commonwealths.

Sources of Information

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February 7, 1916.

Taxation and Home Ownership

A. O. JOINES, *Alleghany County*

The North Carolina Club at the University heard a report upon Taxation and Home Ownership, at the last meeting in February. The report and the discussion are summarized as follows:

During the last election and the last session of the Legislature the people generally took an active interest in our tax situation. At that time we found a large and growing deficit in the state treasury, and at the same time there was a widespread demand that the state should enable every elementary school to be in effective session at least six months in the year. The people of North Carolina came to be interested, as they had never been before, in a valuation of property fair enough to produce the larger public revenues demanded by the state for effective elementary education, better highways, and greater attention to public health.

The General Property Tax

Our uniform ad valorem tax system today falls more heavily on the taxpayer whose mind is honest and whose conscience is tender than upon the dishonest tax-dodger. It bears heavily upon tangible properties like land, and lightly upon stocks, bonds, notes, mortgages, and other invisible properties. It is impossible to reach personal property and get solvent credits on the tax books wherever the uniform ad valorem rule prevails. This system allows gross irregularities. It works in favor of the cunning and against the honest tax-payer. In order to evade the law, fraud, trickery, and even perjury are commonly resorted to. As a result it punishes good citizens, rebukes industry and thrift, and hinders industrial development.

Professor Seligman, of Columbia University, expressed, I think, the universal experience of mankind when he said:

"Practically, the general property tax as actually administered today is, beyond all peradventure, the worst tax known to the civilized world. It puts a premium on dishonesty and debauches the public conscience. It reduces deception to a system and makes a science of knavery. It presses hardest on those least able to pay. It imposes double taxation on one, and grants entire immunity to another. In short, the general property tax is so flagrantly inequitable that its retention can be explained only through ignorance or inertia."

On the other hand, it does not yet appear that the classification and segregation of taxable properties is free from the evils of the general property tax.

Where Our System Fails

However, the work of placing real and personal property on the tax books and of fixing their valuation at present in North Carolina is done by a list taker, one or more in each township every year, appointed by the county commissioners. Every fourth year these township list takers, working with the county assessor appointed by the State Tax Commission, re-assesses land, under the final authority of the state tax commission.

The county tax officers receive the insignificant pay of $2 to $4 per day for from 25 to 50 days in the year. They are often chosen because they have no more profitable job or for political reasons. Such assessors, for selfish motives or from fear of public sentiment, are willing to keep valuations low on their own property and that of their friends and neighbors. The assessments made by such officers are usually final.

There is in each county, to be sure, a county board of equalization composed of county commissioners and the chairman of the township assessors. This board has the power to lower or raise the valuations made by the township assessors. But composed as it is, the county boards cannot be expected to render disinterested service, or to make a just equalization of assessed values.

Besides, both the assessors and the county commissioners are working clumsily at the very hardest problem of government—that of taxation. Our system breaks down in township and county valuations.

Attempting Impossibilities

Beyond these tax county officials is the State Corporation Commission with state-wide power to equalize tax values among the counties of the State; but it is busily engaged in regulating State banks, and foreign and domestic corporations. In supervising, directing, and aiding local assessors, the state commission has rarely achieved good results. Indeed, it has never really attempted to do so until last year and then its orders affirming, lowering, or raising county land values, left untouched the gross inequalities among townships in the same county, and among individual taxpayers in the same township. Or worse, they increased the inequalities of this sort in 79 counties.

For instance, 88,264 acres in one township were assessed at an average of 56 cents an acre, while in another township of the same county 24,912 acres were assessed at an average of $17.39 per acre. The State Tax Commission ordered a 20 per cent increase in this county. The increase was 11 cents per acre in one township and $3.47 in the other. The remedy was worse than the evil in this county; and in particular instances it was so in every county in the state.

Where Reform Must Begin

Tax reform must begin with township and county valuation and equalization. It calls for (1) assessors competently schooled and skilled in land values, local and general, (2) with compensation and time sufficient for the task in every township and county. (3) They must be appointed and directed in such a way as to be free agents working without fear of punishment or hope of reward, and (4) without any pay whatsoever until their work is finally reviewed and accepted under the law.

Bad Effects of Our Tax System

Our system of taxation accounts, in large measure (1) for our steadily decreasing ratio of home owners, (2) our lack of more live-at-home farmers in North Carolina, and (3) for the fact that home-seekers from the West swarm into Canada and the Southwest and rarely come into North Carolina.

Decreasing Home and Farm Ownership

The fact that our lands are rapidly passing into the hands of fewer and fewer people, while our landless, homeless population increases from year to year with alarming rapidity, makes it vitally important that we seek some reform in our repressive tax system. North Carolina has 22,000,000 uncultivated wilderness acres, and at the same time 1,158,000 homeless, landless people dwelling within the borders of the state. They are 52.5 per cent of the entire population. It is a strange situation. Land, land, everywhere, and not an acre that the poor man can afford to buy. It is evident that the state should be armed with power to prevent monopoly in land; which, says Frederick C. Howe, is the very worst of all monopolies.

We glorify the small farm owner who makes the country rich, and sing praise to the man who sits under his own vine and fig tree, unmolested and unafraid. But his is a dwindling tribe in North Carolina and America. Year by year home owning farmers are a smaller fraction of the total population.

Low Tax Values and High Market Values

Holding land out of use for speculative rises in value would cease if lands were taxed at their true and actual value in money in the ordinary manner of sale, as the law requires. The ridiculously low tax value of land in North Carolina, $7.57 average per acre in 1914, and the high market price of the same make it increasingly impossible for the people of small means to own their own little farms. Low tax values and high market values will ultimately concentrate the land of

the state in the hands of wealthy individuals or corporations, and produce a permanent class of tenants and renters.

Home Seekers Settle Elsewhere

Moreover, this state of affairs keeps out of North Carolina the 250,000 farmers who ought to come from the Middle West to help us reclaim our 22,000,000 wilderness acres. During the last five years 1,416,000 of them have settled in Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and the Pan Handle portion of Texas, where the market value of farm land has been lowered by the ravages of the boll weevil.

Verily, it looks as though only the hand of the Almighty can keep land within reach of the poor.

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Privilege and Democracy in America.—F. C. Howe.
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Feb. 21, 1916.

Elbow-Room for Home-Seekers

G. H. COOPER, *Rowan County*

On February 7th the North Carolina Club discussed our 22,000,000 idle acres. Tonight we discuss the question Why We Need More People in North Carolina; under the following heads: (1) the amount of elbow room we have for newcomers, (2) the economic result of a larger population, (3) the social results, (4) possible sources of increase, and (5) ways of securing desirable immigrants.

Abundant Elbow Room for Home Seekers

Nearly three-fourths or to be more exact 72 per cent of all the land in North Carolina lies uncultivated and idle. Iowa is only a little larger than North Carolina; but unlike North Carolina 73 per cent of her area is under cultivation. Four-fifths of our total area could be utilized for farm purposes. The fact that only 8,813,000 of our 32,000,000 acres are under cultivation is amazing. We have room to accommodate 250,000 more new farm families, giving each family 75 acres and leaving 50,000 acres in each county for woodlot purposes. This number of new farm families would nearly exactly double our present country population. We have room for all the farmers of Belgium, 450,000 in number, giving them farms twice as large as they have been accustomed to cultivate at home; even then we would have nine million acres left over. We have room for 25,590 new farm families on 75 acre farms in five of the lower Cape Fear counties, where the soil equals that of any other farm area in the United States.

What It Means to Double Our Farm Population

It would mean an increase of $537,000,000 in farm property alone. It would increase our crop-producing power $102,000,000 a year. These totals are based upon our present small per capita wealth in North Carolina, and our per capita production of farm wealth in 1915. But if our newcomers were Americanized farmers from the Middle West, they would increase our farm wealth more than 3 billion dollars, and add $600,000,000 to the annual wealth produced in crops alone.

A greater density of population in our country regions would mean better school facilities and a decrease of the undue illiteracy that now retards farm progress. Sparsity of population means poor schools and excessive illiteracy. Country children are often compelled to walk from two to four miles to school and even farther to church. It does not take a philosopher to puzzle out the effect of such conditions.

Greater density of population would bring the farmers into closer relationship and eliminate the present social aloofness that now hinders

organization and co-operative farm enterprise. We have talked so much about these things that we are prone to forget how vital they are to a country community; and at the same time how impossible they are in thinly populated farm areas. Densely populated regions can easily have better schools and churches, better roads, less dissatisfaction and unrest, more social life and recreation, more community spirit, and greater progress and prosperity.

Can We Hope to Have More People?

The price of land in the Middle West has increased so much within the last few years that the farmers of that section have been selling their farms at prices ranging from $250 to $400 an acre and swarming into Canada, the southwestern part of the United States, and elsewhere. These farm people ought to be coming into North Carolina. Our soils and climate are far better than Canada or the southwestern states can offer. We do not suffer the sudden changes and extremes of climate that afflict the southwest. We have nothing like the tornadoes, cyclones, and droughts of Texas and Oklahoma.

These people know nothing about cotton farming. But they do know about livestock farming and livestock industries—a kind of farming that needs immense development in North Carolina. Many of the farmers who have migrated to Canada have returned to the United States owing to the fact that they found farming unprofitable and unbearable in the bitterly cold and sparsely settled regions farther north.

The question immediately arises in our minds, Would it be possible to induce them to come to North Carolina?

The Value of Advertising

At present these people do not know that North Carolina is even on the map. They know all about Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, simply because the people of these states have spent millions of money in advertising their advantages. As a result the homeseekers passing through Kansas into Oklahoma and Texas have long averaged 2,000 farm families per week.

These states have turned the trick by abundant advertising. They have enlisted the railroad authorities. Two or three times a week through passenger trains of homeseeker specials leave Chicago for Oklahoma City, Little Rock, and Amarillo. The round-trip ticket is about half the straight fare one way.

Our State Publicity Bureau has bravely begun this work of advertising North Carolina. But it is privately supported. The Bureau funds are a mere bagatelle of the sum demanded by this vast undertaking.

What Mr. J. C. Forrester, the secretary, is doing with a small fund evidences the enormous good he could do with the necessary $100,000 a year.

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March 6, 1915.

Room for New Farm Families in Carolina Counties

University News Letter, Vol. 1, No. 37

A fundamental problem in the South is our immense wilderness area, some two hundred million acres, and our sparse rural population.

We need more folks in North Carolina. Our population is too small. Our rural population in the state-at-large is only 39 to the square mile. We have 9 counties with fewer than 20 people and 3 counties with fewer than 15 people to the square mile.

And in these 9 counties there are three million wilderness acres. In the lower Cape Fear region, the uncultivated area in eleven counties almost exactly equals the entire farm area of Belgium!

We need more folks; not more tenants but more one-horse farm-owners. We need our share of the middle western home-seekers, who since the first of last January have taken over into Canada some twenty million dollars of wealth.

Twenty-two Million Wilderness Acres

There are 22,380,000 uncultivated acres in North Carolina. Four-fifths of it is valuable for farm purposes. A little more than seven acres in every ten are left at present to scrub-pines, black-jacks, sassafras bushes, mullein stalks, may-pops and broomsedge.

Here is a neglected area almost exactly twice the size of Belgium. Here is room for every manjack of the 450,000 Belgian farmers, on farms twice the average size of the little pocket handkerchief fields they have been used to cultivating. And we should have some nine million acres of our wilderness spaces still left for wood-lot uses.

Calmness and Solitude

At present, only 29 per cent of our total area is devoted to farms, meadows and pastures, orchards and gardens, yards and barn lots! Seventy-one per cent is devoted to what Colonel Mulberry Sellers called calmness and solitude.

The uncultivated acreage in North Carolina ranges from 34 per cent of the total in Alamance County to 98 per cent in Dare. We have 48 counties with three-fourths or more of their area uncultivated; 39 counties with four-fifths or more of it held out of the productive farm uses, and 8 counties with nine-tenths or more of the land lying idle.

Disappearing Chances

And this, in face of the fact that our landless, homeless people in North Carolina, in the towns and the country regions, numbered 1,158,-000 souls in the census year. Around two-fifths of our farmers and two-thirds of our city dwellers were tenants and renters.

And in face of the further fact, that our homeless multitude steadily increases year by year. As communities become more and more populous and prosperous, the fewer are the people who live in their own homes.

Foolish Policies

1. Our tax system in the United States favors land-ownership by the few and land orphanage for the many.

It allows one and a half billion acres in the country-at-large to be held out of productive farm uses, for speculative rises in value; in the South some 200,000,000 acres; in North Carolina, 22,000,000 acres!

In the United States, during the last census period farm lands increased in value eighteen billion dollars! The railroads of the country did not dare to water their stock to this extent.

In North Carolina during these ten years from lands increased in value $200,000,000. Land values ranged all the way from a decrease of 9 per cent in Dare, to an increase of 383 per cent in Pamlico.

Of course the chance of land ownership by our landless multitudes is a dwindling, disappearing chance! And everywhere it ought always to be easily possible for the intelligent, industrious, thrifty, upright tenant to rise into ownership.

Our Chinese Wall

2. It is foolish for a county or a state to beat tomtoms about the opportunities that lie in its soils and seasons when land-owners refuse to sell to newcomers at reasonable figures and in this way build a Chinese wall of speculative prices against home-seekers.

If the holder of a thousand idle acres can see no business wisdom in selling off 500 acres at fair prices to ten new farm families and thereby trebling the value of his remaining land by increasing the population of his community ten times over; if landlords in general with 22 million wilderness acres on their hands in North Carolina cannot develop what Calhoun called a policy of intelligent self-interest in this matter, then in sheer self-defense the state will be driven to adopt New Zealand's graduated land tax, sensibly modified to suit prevailing conditions.

Room for 250,000 New Farm Families

In the table that follows, Mr. O. L. Goforth, of Durham county, and Mr. L. L. Lohr, of Lincoln county, students in the University sum-

mer School, exhibit (1) the per cent of uncultivated area in each county, and (2) the room there is for new farm families, allowing 75 acres to each family and reserving 50,000 acres in each county for wood-lot uses.

We have in North Carolina on our present uncultivated areas room for 250,000 home-seeking farm families. This number would almost exactly double the farms we have at present, and still leave 5,000,000 acres for wood-lot purposes.

The room for new farm families ranges from 55 in Alleghany to 7,000 in Bladen county.

UNCULTIVATED AREAS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Based on 1910 Census

O. LeR. Goforth, *Durham County*, L. L. Lohr, *Lincoln County*

No.	County	Per Cent	New Families
1	Alamance	34.1	2,100
2	Alleghany	35.9	55
3	Ashe	38.2	800
4	Watauga	50.7	815
5	Catawba	51.8	1,140
6	Davie	52.5	490
7	Mecklenburg	53.3	2,050
8	Lincoln	53.8	700
9	Greene	53.9	500
10	Edgecombe	54.2	1,690
11	Rowan	54.3	1,600
11	Granville	55.4	1,980
13	Cabarrus	56.2	1,200
14	Gaston	57.1	1,140
15	Halifax	57.2	2,640
16	Iredell	57.6	2,226
16	Franklin	57.6	1,700
16	Forsyth	57.6	1,200
19	Buncombe	58.1	2,690
20	Clay	58.4	880
20	Person	58.4	1,270
20	Cleveland	58.4	1,760
20	Union	58.4	2,130
24	Vance	59.0	740
25	Yadkin	59.1	970
26	Wilson	59.3	1,290
26	Madison	59.3	1,540
28	Davidson	59.6	2,230
29	Caswell	59.7	1,380

30	Johnston	60.7	2,930
31	Lenoir	60.8	1,390
31	Perquimans	60.8	770
31	Northampton	60.8	1,950
31	Wayne	60.8	2,530
35	Surry	64.1	2,170
36	Alexander	64.3	925
36	Pasquotank	64.3	560
38	Wake	64.5	3,980
39	Stokes	64.9	1,990
40	Pitt	65.1	2,680
41	Hyde	65.2	4,100
42	Warren	65.9	1,760
43	Nash	66.1	1,300
44	Rockingham	66.2	2,600
45	Stanly	67.0	1,720
46	Guilford	67.1	3,130
47	Anson	67.2	2,520
48	Robeson	67.6	5,400
49	Chowan	67.8	290
49	Hertford	67.8	1,320
51	Mitchell	69.0	1,500
51	Wilkes	69.0	3,620
51	Orange	69.0	1,630
54	Durham	70.7	1,160
55	Yancey	71.2	990
56	Randolph	71.4	4,250
57	Scotland	71.9	1,470
58	Martin	72.1	2,020
58	Rutherford	72.1	2,620
60	Sampson	72.6	5,180
60	Haywood	72.6	2,720
60	Henderson	72.6	1,560
63	Chatham	72.7	3,650
64	Camden	74.1	1,260
65	Duplin	76.3	4,430
66	Bertie	77.0	3,950
67	Caldwell	77.2	2,700
68	Cherokee	78.1	3,950
69	Lee	78.3	1,090
70	Burke	79.0	2,930
71	Currituck	79.4	1,310
72	Harnett	79.8	3,390
73	Macon	80.5	2,840
74	Polk	81.6	1,060

75	Jackson	82.7	2,780
75	Gates	82.7	1,700
77	Jones	83.1	2,170
78	Richmond	83.9	3,030
79	McDowell	84.0	2,500
80	Cumberland	84.5	6,580
81	Montgomery	84.6	2,920
82	Craven	86.5	4,100
82	Washington	86.5	1,670
84	Pamlico	86.6	1,950
85	Beaufort	86.8	5,560
86	Moore	87.4	4,090
87	Columbus	88.0	6,300
88	Transylvania	88.1	2,190
89	Graham	88.3	1,580
90	Bladen	89.5	7,000
91	Pender	90.0	5,600
92	Onslow	90.1	4,870
93	Swain	90.4	3,600
94	New Hanover	93.0	1,050
95	Brunswick	93.5	5,640
96	Carteret	94.5	3,950
97	Dare	98.4	2,530

State Publicity Bureaus

R. E. PRICE, *Rutherford County*

At the last meeting of the North Carolina Club in March, Mr. Price presented for discussion his study of State Publicity Bureaus.

The work of a State Publicity Bureau, said he, is to advertise at home and abroad the resources and advantages of a state in order to inform and inspire the people of that state and to attract into it new capital and new enterprises, along with new and desirable settlers from other sections.

North Carolinians need to know North Carolina better, but also we need to attract into the state well-to-do Americanized farmers and business people from the North and West.

We have amazing resources, advantages, and opportunities. The trouble is that too few people know about them, either at home or abroad. First of all we must spy them out ourselves, and next we must give them nation-wide publicity—as, for instance, Arkansas is doing with her Arkansas Display Train which is now going over the railroads of the North and West.

In lively energetic ways of one sort or another we must let people know about our fertile soils, our varied climatic advantages, our transportation facilities, our telephone and telegraph lines, our steam and electric railways, our water powers and fisheries, our schools and colleges, the superb moral condition of our people, our excellent labor conditions, our crop productions, and the advantages we offer for live-stock farming, trucking and fruit growing. Here are conditions that favor every line of business enterprise—farming, manufacture, banking, and trade.

All these and many other attractions which North Carolina has to offer should be advertised to the outside world, not to attract into the state foreign immigrants but well-to-do farmers and other business people in other sections of the country.

What Other States Are Doing

The method by which a State Publicity Bureau could do these things would be (1) to make up a mailing list of desirable people in the Northern and North Central States, and (2) to publish and mail out attractive booklets or folders to the state-at-large, the middle western farmers, and the general public. Texas, Georgia, Louisiana, and many other Southern States have found this plan attractive and successful.

The Baby Beef Clubs of Texas have already added $30,000,000 a year to the wealth of that state. These clubs are now working

wonders in the Lone Star State as well as in other states. Texas is attracting nation-wide attention through her state-wide Commercial Club.

The Pig Clubs of Georgia have lessened by $2,000,000 a year her bill for imported pork. The slogan of the clubs is, Market Crops on Four Legs Instead of Four Wheels. The State Publicity Bureaus of both these states are giving the widest possible publicity to the advantages they offer for the production of pork and beef.

In the third place, these bureaus should collect all bulletins and pamphlets locally issued by the various city boards of trade and send them out to the people on their mailing lists.

A large number of local bulletins are issued which show the advantages of our various counties and towns. These should all be distributed by the State Bureau, or its carefully prepared mailing list should be furnished to the local organizations.

A correspondence bureau for disseminating general state information should be maintained. The state's resources should be advertised in the *Chicago Tribune* and other such organs of nation-wide publicity.

Every person in the Northwest who is interested in securing a new home makes it his business to read the attractive advertisements in such papers. The sections which have great attractions to offer homeseekers use the columns of such papers. Hence these papers are a medium of intercourse between homeseekers and the states that have something good to offer.

The railroad authorities can help in this work. They could run Home-Seeker Specials, on through schedules with low round-trip fares. Such trains have long benefited the railroads as well as Florida and the states of the southwest.

Tourist trains of solid Pullman cars leave Chicago twice a week, the year around for Arkansas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Panhandle Texas. The round-trip fare is a little less than the regular fare one way. This arrangement was affected by the State Publicity Bureaus or the State Chambers of Commerce.

The farm and factory products of North Carolina should be exhibited in the windows of every store, bank, and public building in every town in the state, so that travellers could not escape seeing at a glance the attractions of our various communities. Wisconsin, Oklahoma and other states have tried this plan and found it wonderfully effective.

Thirteen States Are Active

Thirteen states have State Publicity Bureuas, maintained at the public expense as departments of the civil establishment. In Washington and Oregon they are giving the widest publicity to the resources and advantages of these two states, and they are attracting homeseekers

from every state in the Union. Washington for instance had 5,502 North Carolinians within her borders in 1910. Both these states issue year books that are sent free to anybody who writes for them. They advertise the resources and advantages of these states in an attractive, effective manner.

Texas and Georgia have privately maintained bureaus which are supported by the local boards of trade which compose the State Chamber of Commerce.

Texas has increased her population 14 per cent since 1910. Georgia has increased her population 9.4 per cent during the same period. The increase in both states is largely due to the fact that their resources and advantages are a familiar story to the settlers and homeseekers of the North Central States.

Oklahoma has increased her population, according to a recent census bulletin estimate 32.8 per cent since 1910. She has one of the livest publicity bureaus in the United States.

Louisiana, through the State Department of Agriculture and Immigration, has increased her population 10.4 per cent since 1910.

Kentucky has no publicity bureau whatever. Her per cent of increase in population since the census year is only 4 per cent.

South Carolina and Mississippi have no publicity bureaus and their per cents of increase since 1910 are only 7.3 per cent and 8.6 per cent, respectively.

These figures show us what publicity bureaus can do and are doing. The South Atlantic States have far more attractions to offer homeseekers than the southwestern or far western states.

Alabama, Minnesota, Michigan, Montana, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, and Wyoming all operate publicity and homeseekers bureaus, publicly supported, under various titles. They have all found, by experience, that such bureaus pay large dividends.

Why Such Bureaus Are Rare

The main objection to state supported publicity bureaus is that they have usually been officered by politicians, who are more than apt to be men with no training for a technical job of this sort and no comprehension of its purpose, plans, and methods. As a result they waste public money and accomplish little or nothing.

Because of this single fact, the immigration bureaus of the various state governments have been gradually abolished, and the work of publicity laid upon the departments of agriculture or labor and statistics. But state-wide promotion and publicity in such departments have usually been side issues, poorly attended to in most of the states. The general public has ceased to expect from them the large service

that might be rendered in this way by trained, skilled workers in this particular field!

Mr. J. C. Forester, secretary of the North Carolina State Publicity Bureau, with headquarters in Greensboro, is doing all he can on a meager, privately contributed allowance. What he is doing with $5,000 to advertise the wonderful possibilities of North Carolina evidences the great service he could render with the $50,000 or $75,000 he needs to carry on this important work properly.

The state could well afford to create a State Publicity Bureau located at the capital and supported as a part of our civil establishment; provided, to be sure, it could be firmly and finally divorced from party politics, and officered by a staff of people technically trained in the business of promotion and publicity. Such a bureau could give reliable, unbiased information about the many opportunities that promise rewards to capital and capitalists, to home-seeking farmers, and skilled laborers in our fields and factories.

North Carolina can never develop her utmost possibilities without a larger population, greater wealth, larger capital, and larger views and visions.

Sources of Information

State Publicity Bureaus.—Bulletin U. S. Department of Commerce.
Files of the North Carolina Club.

March 20, 1916.

The Fair: A Means of Stimulation and Advertisement

M. H. RANDOLPH, *Mecklenburg County*

The fair was under discussion on April 3 by the North Carolina Club at the University, Mr. M. H. Randloph, of Mecklenburg, leading.

1. The Purpose of Fairs

The fair, if rightly conducted, said he, is an excellent means of stimulating community pride. It introduces a community to itself and arouses it to progressive effort as well as advertises the resources of the community to those who live outside. It is bad enough for people to be blind to the advantages which are offered in regions other than their own, but for a county or community to be ignorant of activities and successes within its own borders is inexcusable, when by a little co-operative effort the fair can be made to serve the useful purpose of self-acquaintance.

Fairs in general include school fairs, community fairs, county fairs, and state fairs. We shall discuss each of them and show wherein it is of value to the people. Because of its peculiar nature and great importance, we will give first place to the school fair.

2. The School Fair

In order to give a correct idea of the school fair, we will undertake to describe one. About 9 o'clock in the morning the crowd begins to arrive. They come from every direction, the rich and the poor, in automobiles, in buggies, wagons, on horseback and on foot. The fathers, mothers, sisters, and brothers are all present, because the children will soon march in the parade and receive prizes. By 10 o'clock probably 3,000 or 4,000 people have gathered at the exhibit hall. The doors are opened and the crowd enters. The table near the entrance is loaded with bread, pies, cakes, jellies, and canned goods. Next is the domestic art exhibit consisting of aprons, dresses, and handkerchiefs, sofa pillow covers, and the like. Another table is covered with a flower and fruit exhibit. The agricultural exhibit contains choice products of the soil such as corn, peas, potatoes, and pumpkins; and there is also a division for cattle, pigs, and poultry. The manual training exhibit contains picture frames, baskets, brooms, book-racks and the like. The literary exhibit contains compositions on such subjects as Good Roads, the Value of Scientific Farming, How to Make the Country Home Attractive, the House Fly a Menace to Health, and so on. Numerous specimens of writing and drawing,

county maps and state maps decorate the walls. All these exhibits are prepared by the school children themselves.

After the crowd looks over the exhibit, they retire to the courthouse yard and hear a short address or two, one by the farm demonstration agent, and the other by a member of the State Department of Public Instruction, or some other honored guest and speaker. After the luncheon all the children form in line and march. It is an inspiring sight to see this army of the future men and women of a school community. The parade passes the courthouse where the certificates of graduation and the prizes are delivered, and then on to the athletic field. Here all kind of stunts are pulled off. The crowd goes home feeling as never before the immensity of the public school system, and realizing its broad field of usefulness.

In order to have a successful school fair the county superintendent must be interested. He can call the teachers together in a meeting and enlist them in the work. A committee composed of a teacher, a trustee, and a citizen from each district manages the fair, gets up the premium list, and advertises the project. Business men are always willing to subscribe to the premium list. Active advertising and boosting will help to make the fair a success. The most convenient time for the school fair is in connection with the county commencement.

3. The Community Fair

The community fair is the next in order of importance. This fair should be an exhibit of the products made in the community. Our idea of a community fair is a complete exhibit of the agricultural and industrial products of the community, both home-made and factory-made. The committee should secure one or two good speakers for the occasion and arrangements for athletic contests should be made. The success of the project depends largely on the premium list. This should cover a great variety of community efforts. The business men of nearby towns are anxious to help publish the premium list because of the benefits they will derive from advertising. The athletic contests would be more closely contested, too, if a large number of small prizes were offered, instead of a few large prizes.

4. The County Fair

The county fair should be representative of the county, and should, as far as possible, give a fair idea of the resources and possibilities of its farming, milling, educational, and business advantages. The county fair is generally backed by the business men of the county seat where the fair is held. They think that by drawing the crowd to town their volume of trade will be increased. But as a matter of fact the country people do not buy much on fair days. They save their nickels for

the many attractions of the fair. The business men soon find out that their plan is not working and they frequently give up the fair as a hopeless venture. For this simple reason most of the county fairs have failed. A few county fairs in the United States have lived for 60 years or more. The fairs that have lived so long have never had horse races, ferris wheels and the like. The value of a county fair consists in its being able to show the products of the homes, farms, mills, and factories of the county. The purpose of the county fair is destroyed when the farm and factory exhibits are given a place of minor importance, and various spectacular attractions preoccupy the attention of the crowd. Here again the premium list must be complete and offer prizes for strictly home products.

5. The State Fair

Our State Fair, while improved in many respects in recent years, still lacks a great deal of being what a state fair ought to be. The management is not sufficiently imbued with the idea of making the fair a great expression of the State's agricultural, industrial, and educational resources and progress. Too much emphasis is laid on horse races, balloon ascensions, and aeroplane flights.

The midway is too much in evidence, with its long line of fakirs. Covering money with rings, hitting a negro's head with a baseball, and striking a trigger with a ball to see a negro take a dive always give plenty of amusement, but they tend to draw the attention from what should be the biggest thing at their fair—the agricultural and industrial exhibits. Such shows as the Wild Man from Borneo, the Two-Headed Man, the Old Plantation Choir, and the Gay Young Widows from Coney Island, all get their share of nickels and dimes, but they tend to destroy the main purposes of the fair organization.

The state fair should bring together all the best and finest exhibits from the various local fairs of the state. The State Agricultural Society and other organizations should use the state fair for liberal educational purposes.

It would also be well if recognition were given in some way to the counties that have distinguished themselves in each line of progress during the preceding year, not merely in material production but in all forms of social progress.

The state fair if rightly conducted is an excellent means of stimulating economic and social progress in North Carolina.

Sources of Information

Farm Organization in the United States.—John Lee Coulter.
Files of the North Carolina Club.

OUR CAROLINA HIGHLANDERS

Our 243,000 highlanders had an inning at the University—on Monday night, April 23, before the North Carolina Club. The program was as follows:

Our Carolina Highlanders: (1) Geographic Conditions and Influences, D. N. Edwards, Wilkes county; (2) Economic Status—Agriculture, Industries, and Education, C. C. Miller, Watauga county; (3) Social Status—Classes, Conditions, and Attitudes, J. B. Huff, Madison county.

Geographic Conditions and Influences

D. N. Edwards, *Wilkes County*

The Land

The Highlands of western North Carolina are a land-locked area, consisting of seventeen counties, with a population of 243,000 souls. The Blue Ridge bounds this territory on the east, and the Great Smokies and Unakas on the west. These mountains were old before the Alps and the Andes, the Rockies and the Himalayas were shaped into their first form.

The Carolina mountains rise abruptly from a low base and extend to heights varying from 2,000 to 5,000 feet above their valleys. For this reason they impress one much more strongly than many higher mountains that rise as protuberances on a more elevated plateau. Their sides and summits are covered with thick forests and undergrowth. In some cases grassy balds cap the heights. Altho this area is bounded by the highest range east of the Rockies, yet we find very few barren slopes or jutting crags. Even where they exist it is difficult to discover them on account of the almost tropical luxuriance of shrubs and trees. Deep and narrow ravines separate the ridges, and the streams are often entirely obscured by thick overhanging growths. Nevertheless, in almost every mountain county there are broad fertile valleys filled with well developed livestock farms and prosperous farmers.

The richness of the highland forest is well known to all who have traversed it. Passing from the valleys to the highest summit one finds all the floral zones that are found btween mid-Georgia and southern Canada. Horace Kephart says that nowhere in the temperate zone is there such a variety of merchantable timber as in western North Carolina and in the Tennessee front of the Unaka system. Something like one hundred and twenty species of native trees grow in the Smoky Mountain forests. A thirty-mile trip in the mountains of North Carolina would enable a person to see more indigenous

trees than a trip across Europe from England to Turkey, or a journey from Boston to the Rocky Mountain plateau. Not only are our highlands rich in variety of trees and plants, but they are unexcelled in fertility of soil. The hillsides as well as the valleys produce abundant crops. The pasture lands are surpassed only by the blue grass lands of Kentucky.

The Mountain People

But what type of people have these highlands produced? As naturally might be expected they are independent and high spirited. Numberless separating ridges have prevented any close contact of neighborhoods in coves and valleys even in small areas, and our people have long suffered from lack of concerted, co-operative action. For the most part, our mountain counties are sparsely settled, and of course they have the defects attendant upon such a condition everywhere—in highlands and lowlands alike. The results of social isolation and insulation can hardly be over estimated, but it must be borne in mind that these conditions are not peculiar to the highlands alone. Some of our eastern counties are as sparsely settled as our mountain counties.

We are brawly individualistic. We lack organizable qualities. We have the personal mind, we lack the civic and social mind. We need organization for co-operative enterprises.

What We Need

We need to pull together for better roads, better schools, better churches. We need concerted action in grading, standardizing, warehousing and marketing our fruits and vegetables, livestock and livestock products. And we are making progress in all these directions. The Farmers' Union has been a stimulating agency in some of our mountain counties, but on the whole it has lacked what every such movement needs—faithful, tireless leadership.

Co-operative cheese factories are being established—so far four. Alleghany, Ashe, and Watauga are leading in this industry. The highlands are admirably suited to beef production, dairy farming, and cheese making, and development in these directions is already noteworthy. Along with co-operation in the manufacture of dairy products, there should be concerted action in the marketing of animal products. Our present system of hap-hazard marketing is destructive of steady and assured profits. The present chaotic market conditions are due to our go-it-alone principle. Our Buncombe and Watauga cabbages could easily be as widely famous and as profitable to the growers as the York county cabbages of Pennsylvania, while the flavor and shipping qualities of our winesaps and limbertwigs are far superior to the apples of the Ozark mountains, Colorado and Oregon. If only our farmers were well enough organized they could ship their products in

car-load lots to northern and western markets and get good returns. But as it is at present, they are almost dependent upon the local buyers at the nearest railway point. And here on almost any day the market may be overstocked by two or three extra cabbage and apple wagons. However, the Wilkes county apple growers are rapidly learning the trick of co-operative grading, packing, warehousing, and selling.

Along with co-operation in other fields, the highland counties need better banking advantages. Our counties have long been deficient in credit facilities. Some parts of the mountain country are so far away from a bank that it is very inconvenient for the people to make use of the banks at all. There is, for instance, no bank in Graham County, only one each in Alleghany, Clay, Transylvania, and Mitchell; and only 39 banks in all our mountain counties, including the eight banks in Buncombe—an average of one bank for every 6,230 people, the average in North Carolina being one bank for every 4,800 people.

All the mountain counties need more cash operating capital. What they possess is not put to the greatest use. Instead of depositing their money in the banks where it might serve as a basis for many times that amount of credit it is hoarded at home in private places. When we have in mind that from 90 to 95 per cent of the business of the United States is done on credit, we can comprehend what a handicap our mountain people are laboring under when they fail to establish and make use of banks. Credit as here used means bank credit, not book credit.

Under geographic conditions, our highlanders have been compelled to be live-at-home farmers. The lack of improved highways and railways has kept them remote from the big world of commerce. They live well, but they handle little money. In other words they have lived on products, and not on profits. They are keen in trading; no people anywhere are keener; but as a people they have not yet developed the commercial mind. And this development is necessary, because it leads into the closely knit co-operation that is now lacking in the mountain country.

Economic Status—Agriculture, Industries, Education

CLYDE C. MILLER, *Watauga County*

Not a Peculiar People

In speaking of the mountain people of North Carolina the first thing to get straight is the fact that they are not materially different from the people in the other parts of the state. Our mountains were settled mainly by people from the piedmont section, beginning about the close of the Revolution. As soon as they crossed the Blue Ridge they became practically independent. They raised their own food and feed crops, and made their own clothing, shoes, and the like from the products of their own farms. There were only a few things such as salt, sugar and coffee that they had to buy from the lowlands. Thus the mountain counties became about as self-sufficing as any community could be. The variation is market prices did not affect them. They produced as much as they needed for their own consumption and thought of nothing more. This condition of affairs existed until recent years, when the mountain farmers began to devote time to the development and sale of livestock. Today they get most of their income from that source.

They Are a Rural Population

There are a rural people. Only 37,000 of them out of a total of 243,000 live in towns, and about one-half of the 37,000 live in Asheville. Thus the problems that we find there are the same that we find in every country district in North Carolina. That is, they are the problems of country civilization everywhere.

And these problems are not harder to solve here than in the average country district elsewhere in this or any other state.

They Are Not Poverty Stricken

Many people have the idea that our mountain regions are a region of widespread poverty. But they are not. The richest county in the state in per capita rural wealth is Alleghany; while Buncombe ranks 5th, Ashe 6th, Henderson 13th, and Watauga 14th in this particular. I suspect it is true that less money per person is circulated in the mountains than in the lowlands. This is accounted for by the fact that each farm home is practically self-feeding. There are no large industries there, and consequently they need but little cash operating capital. It is true three of the poorest counties of North Carolina in

per capita country wealth are Graham, Cherokee, and Swain, but there are four counties east of the Ridge that rank just as low—Moore, Brunswick, Carteret, and Dare.

Poor people are found in the mountains just as described by certain writers, but the same class can be found within the sound of college bells in the educational centers of this and every other state. In either case it is equally unjust to present them as typical when they are exceptional. It is entirely correct to say that the extremes of wealth and poverty are less glaring in the mountains than in any other part of North Carolina.

There are a few rich people in our highlands. Ten mountain counties pay no income tax whatever—Ashe, Watauga, Avery, Mitchell, Yancey, Madison, Haywood, Macon, Graham, and Clay. Buncombe pays $4,011.43, and the other four, Alleghany, Cherokee, Haywood, and Swain pay altogether only $266.88.

On the other hand, both indoor and outdoor pauperism is less in the mountains than in the state as a whole. "The 1910 census discloses an average rate of 190 almshouse paupers for every 100,000 inhabitants in the United States. In North Carolina the rate was 96. In the eleven highland counties that maintained county homes the rate was only 79. The rate in Cherokee County was 21, but rose to 137 in Buncombe. Yet Buncombe makes a better showing in this respect than all the North Atlantic and New England States.

"In outside pauperism the state rate in 1914 was 234 per 100,0000 inhabitants, but the rate in twelve mountain counties was only 205. Six mountain counties make a far better showing than the state at large. Mitchell ranked 5th in the state, and lead the mountain counties with a rate of 35. Buncombe and Clay had the largest rates, 341 and 376 respectively. In 1914 in 12 mountain counties with a total population of 209,000 the paupers numbered only 559."

A Region of Livestock, Fruits, and Vegetables

The mountain counties are chiefly engaged in stock raising. This is the chief source of income, but they raise all the standard fruits and vegetables. Apples are the chief fruit and Irish potatoes and cabbage are the best paying vegetables.

The marketing of these fruits and vegetables, especially in Ashe, Alleghany, and Watauga, has been the greatest drawback to their production on a commercial scale. The cattle and sheep are collected and driven out of the counties and marketed without much trouble, but the apples, cabbage and potatoes have to be hauled on wagons over rough roads from 25 to 50 miles before they reach a railroad market. Of course under such conditions only a few people have

tried to develop such farming to its best. If there is a heavy crop of apples, potatoes and cabbage, the market price is low and the receipts hardly pay the transportation charges. Yet it is not an uncommon thing to see 20 or 25 loaded wagons a day in the middle of the fall hauling their products out of the mountains. The buyers usually get this produce at whatever price they choose to pay for it. The sellers are from two to three days journey from home and not in a position to demand the prices that represent the real value of their loads. Then, too, the producers pay but little attention to grading and handling, and their fruits are not likely to be in the best condition after being hauled in wagons long distances over rough roads.

The average farmer pays little attention to an orchard after it has been planted. Little attention is given to pruning, worming, or spraying the trees. Nevertheless, excellent fruit is raised in the highlands, and if good markets and proper means of transportation were assured, fruit raising would be a most profitable industry. In Watauga county there has been two large orchards planted for commercial purposes within the last fifteen years. One is the Cone orchard at Blowing Rock and the other belongs to the Episcopal Church Industrial School at Valle Crucis. One is 23 miles and the other 15 miles from the nearest railway station. Yet they have shown the possibilities of fruit-raising under scientific management even under these adverse facilities for marketing.

In an average year the crop of mountain apples is so large that thousands of bushels rot in the orchards, and in 1914 this waste amounted to a half million dollars or more. Nearly every mountain farmer raises apples enough for drying, canning, and vinegar-making to last him from one season to another, but our people have not yet learned to save the enormous annual waste of fruits, by canning and preserving on a commercial scale for wide markets.

The majority of the people in the mountains raise cattle and sheep, from the sale of which comes their supply of money, and in addition they raise their own pork which costs but little, being fattened to a great extent on the chestnuts and acorns that the mountain forests produce in abundance. Most of them raise poultry, chickens and turkeys, corn, cane, oats, hay, and rye, orchard fruits such as apples, peaches, cherries, and plums, and garden vegetables such as potatoes, cabbage, tomatoes, beans, peas, and onions in quantities sufficient for home use from one year to another. Nearly every farm has a few hives of bees, and they amply repay the attention that they get. Grapes, berries, especially blackberries, and several other kinds of small fruits grow wild and produce abundantly whether the farmer wants them or not. These are found on practically ever farm in the mountains.

Yet farming is not done scientifically in the mountains any more than in the other sections of the state. The soil and climate are well

adapted to raising the products I have mentioned, with the least effort on part of the farmers. The average mountain farmer, as elsewhere in the state, loafs some all the year around, and especially from the first of December to the first of March, although his stock requires considerable attention throughout the winter.

A Land of Home Owners

The mountain counties are not cursed with farm tenancy. They are home-owning farmers for the most part. In 1910, 42 per cent of the farmers of the state were tenants. In Alleghany 85 per cent of the farmers owned the farms they cultivated, in Ashe 84 per cent, Watauga 83 per cent, and in Mitchell 81 per cent. The highest rate of tenancy in the mountain counties is found in Haywood, 38 per cent. Clay and Yancey follow with 33 per cent, Macon with 30, Swain with 27, and Buncombe with 26 per cent. In twelve of these fifteen counties tenancy decreased and ownership increased during the last census period.

Poorly Developed Native Industries

In the matter of industries the mountain counties are as yet poorly developed, but industrialism is fast sweeping over our highland region. The water power, timber, and mineral resources of the mountains have begun to attract the attention of organized big business. Unfortunately the timber supply has been already largely exhausted. The saw mill has been at work for years in the mountains cutting the choicest timber, and the lumber has been hauled by wagons to the railway markets. Numerous companies have bought up large tracts of forest land and are rapidly cutting out the timber, or, in some cases, holding it till a railroad gets within reasonable distance of their property.

Mining Industries

Mining will play a larger part in mountain development than is commonly supposed, but the wealth of the mountains, I think, lies more in their water power and agricultural advantages. The value of the mineral products of the mountain counties in 1912 was $760,109. The products consisted of copper, asbestos, iron, felspar, kaolin, mica, clays, and some gold. The iron ores of Mitchell and Avery produced more than half the total value of our mountain mineral output. Other mines, both the old, abandoned mines and new ones, will be opened up when we get better railway connections with the outside world.

Our Water Powers

There is of course more water power in the mountains than in any other equal area in the state, but most of the streams are small and

they have been but little utilized. There are numbers of streams of considerable power and hundreds of smaller streams that could furnish light and motor power for farm homes, towns, and industrial enterprises. The larger streams are the New, the Watauga, the Toe, the French Broad, the Pigeon, the Tennessee, and the Hiawassee rivers, and they will doubtless furnish power for extensive enterprises while their tributaries will some day light the homes and small towns and run the machinery of the farms. The farmers are already beginning to utilize those smaller streams for that purpose. Within the last year the villages of Boone, Valle Crucis, and Blowing Rock in Watauga County have been lighted by the power of small nearby streams In a few more years the majority of mountain houses and farm villages will be lighted by electricity and numerous industrial plants will be run by the hydro-electric power of our small streams.

Agricultural Industries

Agricultural industries in this section are just beginning to be developed. Our opportunity for developing such industries is the best in the state. Our communication with the outside world is being bettered daily and the mountains raise at a small cost the necessary agricultural products. Cheese factories have been built recently in Watauga, Ashe, and Alleghany, and will doubtless be followed by others. The farmers have found a sale for their products and have learned that there is a large profit in these enterprises.

They have no creameries because of the long distance to shipping points, and no canning for commercial purposes although thousands of bushels of fruit go to waste every season. No attention is paid to putting up meat products for a parcels post trade—such as sausages, or hams, bacon, and shoulders properly trimmed, cured, and sacked-up, fly and skipper proof. Mountain sausage made in North Carolina could as easily command trade as Jones's sausage made in Wisconsin. But nobody in our mountains has yet seized upon the opportunity. On the contrary pork production is a dwindling farm enterprise in all our highland counties. The mountain region is behind other sections of the state in agricultural industries, but there is promise of an early awakening in this particular.

School Interest and Enterprise

When we consider the educational standing of the mountaineers we are treating a subject that is widely misunderstood. The people of the mountains are commonly misrepresented in this particular, and this is done in many cases by people who call themselves missionaries. These people write to their friends and supporters in the North giving them

distorted descriptions of the ignorance and illiteracy of the natives and wind up by soliciting a contribution.

As a matter of fact illiteracy among native whites in our mountains is not more distressing than white illiteracy elsewhere in the state. In Alleghany, Buncombe, Graham, Henderson, and Transylvania the rates of white illiteracy are less than the state average; in Macon, Haywood, and Watauga the ratios are near the state average of 12.3 per cent. The average rate for the mountain counties is 15.1 per cent, due to excessive white illiteracy rates in eight counties; namely, Jackson 15.3 per cent, Ashe 15.6 per cent, Clay 16.3 per cent, Swain 18 per cent, Madison 18.7 per cent, Cherokee 19.4 per cent, Yancey 19.5 per cent, and Mitchell 22.4 per cent. This condition is certainly deplorable just as is the high white illiteracy rate of Columbus, one of the eastern counties, or a dozen other counties east of the ridge. Illiteracy rates are usually distressing in sparsely settled rural communities everywhere, in the mountains and elsewhere alike.

"In 1910 the per capita investment in country and school property in the mountains was $1.86, while for the state it was $2.08. Seven mountain counties are well above the state average with per capita investments ranging from $2.56 in Swain, one of the three poorest counties in the state, to $4.56 in Transylvania. But on the other hand the per capita investment of Ashe was only 78 cents."

The per capita investment in mountain schools will increase as the population increases and as the roads are improved. For instance, the value of shool property in Ashe has trebled within the last four years.

"The mountains need schools that are directly and effectively related to the resources, opportunities, and possibilities of the hill country. They ought to be busy with the problems of hill-country farming—crop rotations, fruits and nuts, cabbage, potato and celery culture, ham and bacon production, beef animals, dairy farming, cheese and butter factories, poultry and eggs." There are a number of mountain schools that teach Latin and Greek, but in the whole mountain regions I know of only one school that teaches subjects of the practical sort named above. It is in Buncombe.

The piedmont and coastal plain counties of the state are rapidly establishing farm-life schools, and I believe that before long they will be started up in the mountains. Schools teaching agriculture and agricultural industries by example would be a greater benefit to the mountains than any other kind of school.

Social Status: Classes, Conditions, and Attitudes

J. B. HUFF, *Madison County*

The most marked characteristic of the highlander, I think, is his pronounced individualism. With this in mind let us proceed to consider:

1. First his Social Status. The highlander is not poverty stricken. From the 1910 census we learn that Alleghany, one of the 17 mountain counties, leads the state in per capita rural wealth. In fact, five of the mountain counties rank above the state average in this particular. The poorest counties in per capita country wealth are not in the mountains, but in tidewater Carolina. I find, however, that the per capita rural wealth of the mountain counties is a little less than $300, while the state average is $322. It will be seen that the difference is slight and that the cry of poverty is not sustained by the facts. Mr. Horace Kephart in his "Southern Highlanders" failed to ascertain the truth when he accused us of being far below the level of our neighbors in wealth. Likewise Mr. S. H. Thompson in his little book on "The Highlanders of the South," leaves a totally wrong impression.

And what about the distribution of wealth in the mountains? In other words, what per cent of the mountain people are paupers?

Mountain Poverty

From the census of 1910 we learn that in the United States as a whole there are 196 almshouse paupers per 100,000 inhabitants, but in North Carolina the rates was only 96 or less than half the average for the country-at-large. But the number of paupers in the almshouses of eleven mountain counties averaged only 79 per 100,000 inhabitants, or 17 less than the state average.

Outside paupers considered, that is, poor people who receive some help from the county treasury but are not sent to an almshouse, the highland counties make a still better showing. In 1914 outside paupers in the state averaged 234 per 100,000 inhabitants. In the 12 mountain counties that reported the rates was only 205 per 100,000 inhabitants.

It might interest some of you to know that the ratio of the paupers per 100,000 inhabitants in the wealthy Middle Atlantic and New England States was from 2 to 5 times the rates of our highland counties. Their large wealth is far more unevenly distributed than the small wealth of our mountains. And yet Mr. Thompson in his "Southern Highlanders" would have us believe that thousands and thousands of people in these counties are too poor to buy even a wash pan or a comb.

Mountain Illiteracy

The next point in the social status of the mountaineers that I shall notice is illiteracy. From the 1910 census we find that the per cent of white illiterates in the state at large, 10 years of age and older, was 12.3. In the 15 mountain counties it was 15.1. Observe, however, that eight of the 15 counties had a per cent as low as that of the state, and 5 of the 8 even lower. We are illiterate but the state-at-large suffers the same ignominy. But there is a ray of hope in the fact that North Carolina reduced her white illiteracy during the last census period more than any other state in the Union, New Mexico alone excepted. This deplorable illiteracy, which I have shown is not peculiar to the mountain counties more than to the rest of the state, is the result, I think, of our extreme individualism—the dominant trait, as I see it, of the mountaineer. Our mountains, our isolation, our sparsely settled rural population naturally develop an intensely individualistic, non-co-operative spirit. This is apt to be true under such conditions the world over.

Mountain Democracy

The distinction between classes is less noticeable in our mountain counties than elsewhere in the state. Not many are over-rich and but few are overly poor. There is more nearly an equitable distribution of wealth, health, and well-being here than in any other part of the state. I go further and say that there is a greater per cent of the people above the general level in the highlands than elsewhere. In farm ownership, for instance, the state average in 1910 was 57.3 per cent, while in the 15 mountain counties it was 72 per cent. These figures have great significance, it seems to me. A land of home-owners is a land where every man is as good as his neighbor. Nevertheless it is the custom of many to speak of us in a condescending, sentimental, patronizing manner. We need their help perhaps, and peradventure they need ours.

Social Aloofness

2. Speaking of Conditions and Attitudes, I remark once more that the one characteristic that distinguishes the mountaineer is his rank individualism. This individualism leads into pronounced self-satisfaction and undisturbed complacency. They express the result of conditions and environment rather than racial peculiarity. Sparsely settled people everywhere, especially when this sparseness is accentuated by hill and mountain barriers, are prone to become self-centred, self-satisfied, and individualistic to a fault.

Let me illustrate the spirit of aloofness and remoteness that is found strongly developed in mountain people. Some years ago with a party

of companions I made a trip from Madison county through the Great Smoky Mountains into Tennessee. Our means of conveyance was the old fashioned, covered wagon. At the end of the third day we found ourselves at the bottom of a deep mountain gorge through which flowed what was, at ordinary times, a clear stream, not more than two feet deep on the average, and fifty feet wide. Continued rains had converted it into a raging torrent, and great logs and trees were being dashed and tumbled about on its surface like small sticks. The grinding of the rocks and the roar of the waters were deafening. I distinctly remember the feeling of awe and even fear that the scene inspired. The mountains rose precipitously from the edge of the stream leaving barely room for a road. Of course there was no bridge, and crossing was impossible. We unloosed our horses and prepared to camp. Soon a typical mountaineer, large and brawny, appeared. He was some fifty yards away when we saw him, and he came no nearer. He did not speak, but merely walked around and looked. Suddenly he disappeared and in about half an hour returned with about half a dozen companions. They likewise remained some fifty yards away, and circled around and looked. They did not speak but their looks and actions were ominous. I fully expected to be scalped that night, and I remember my surprise when I awoke from a short troubled sleep and found my hair on the top of my head. At daybreak, the stream having subsided sufficiently, we prepared to cross, when lo our visitors suddenly appeared and helped us over. On the night before they would have watched us go down, I verily believe, without turning a hand. No doubt they had watched over us all night and had finally decided that we were not revenue officers and therefore might go in peace.

Lack of Social Mindedness

This, though an extreme case, is fairly illustrative of the mountaineer's aloofness. He is very likely to let you prove yourself for a while before he ever takes his watchful eyes off of you. Then, except in rare cases, he thinks it best for you to row your own boat as he has always done. This spirit of aloofness, of unwillingness to co-operate with neighbors and authorities, is possibly the greatest enemy to his progress. He seems afraid to a certain extent to trust his fellows and he reasons that his old ways of enterprise are the best. Slowly at best he learns new ways of seeing and doing things, and the infusion of new blood and new ideas has been slow in most mountain communities. He wants the schoolhouse as near his front door as he can get it, and he is satisfied with very poor teaching. In the support of schools and churches, the building of roads, and every other kind of public improvements he is simply not accustomed to co-operate to an appreciable extent. He is usually a religious being, but he is little concerned

about his neighbor's salvation. I base this statement on the fact that he pays relatively almost nothing for the support of evangelical enterprises.

The mountaineer is, also, constitutionally opposed to paying taxes, and especially taxes levied to support progress and prosperity. He cannot clearly see why he should support schools for his neighbor's children, or why he should build roads for other people to use, or why he should be interested in anything beyond his own private affairs. However, the civic and social mind supplants the individual mind all too slowly the whole state over.

The infusion of new blood and with it new ideas and ideals would work a wonderful change in the mountain counties. Without this, I fear that progress in this region will be comparatively slow. Our greatest need, I would say, is the ability to work together and the willingness to devote private means to the public ends.

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